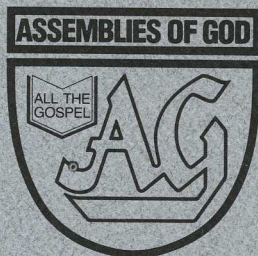


MINUTES

Revised Constitution and Bylaws

The General Council of the Assemblies of God



THE FORTY-THIRD GENERAL COUNCIL
Indianapolis, Indiana, August 8-13, 1989

MINUTES
of the
43rd Session of
THE GENERAL COUNCIL
of the
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Convened at Indianapolis, Indiana
August 8-13, 1989
with
Revised Constitution and Bylaws

(Incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri,
October 13, 1916; amended September 26, 1919, Sep-
tember 7, 1965, and November 4, 1977)

Printed in U.S.A.

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

G. Raymond Carlson General Superintendent
Everett R. Stenhouse Assistant General Superintendent
Joseph R. Flower General Secretary
Thomas E. Trask General Treasurer

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERY

G. Raymond Carlson, Chairman	
Almon M. Bartholomew	Herman H. Rohde
Robert L. Brandt	Robert K. Schmidgall
Glen D. Cole	Everett R. Stenhouse
Joseph R. Flower	Thomas E. Trask
J. Foy Johnson	Loren Triplett
Paul E. Lowenberg	Philip Wannenmacher

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65802
Telephone (417) 862-2781

FOREWORD

The 43rd General Council was the occasion for the observance of the 75th Anniversary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, and also the official launching of the Decade of Harvest.

The theme was set by Charles T. Crabtree in the opening service on Tuesday, August 8. A mighty anointing of the Spirit attended his ministry and that of the others who ministered: Bobby Wilson, Spencer Jones, Charles Crank, Gene Jackson, Everett Stenhouse, and G. Raymond Carlson.

On Sunday evening, August 13, the concluding service began with an international parade featuring guests and church leaders from around the world, as well as home and foreign missionaries. Special music included the choir from Fiji, a 2,500 voice choir of area singers, and a medley of sacred song by fifteen vocalists and musicians who had ministered at previous General Councils. Following the sermon by General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson on "The Harvest Will Not Wait," with a trumpet fanfare, runners who participated in the torch run from Hot Springs entered the arena. Terry Raburn passed the torch to Brother Carlson, who amid a great volume of praise from the assemblage declared the launching of the Decade of Harvest.

All of the executive officers were returned to office on the nominating ballots. Loren Triplett is replacing J. Philip Hogan as executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions. Brother Hogan had indicated he did not desire that he be considered for that position at this Council. The only other change on the Executive Presbytery was the election of Philip Wannenmacher, replacing James Hamill as nonresident executive presbyter from the Gulf Area.

Among the important resolutions considered by the 43rd General Council were the following (See minutes):

Division of Christian Education Restructure—Referred to Committee
General Council Schools Unification—Referred to Committee
Credentials Authority for All Grades of Credentials—Adopted
Abortion—Pro-life Conduct of Ministers—Adopted
Position Papers Study Committee—Adopted
ICI Study Committee—Referred to Executive Presbytery
Sanctity of Human Life Sunday—Adopted
AIDS—Adopted
Racism—Adopted
Fellowship Partnership—Adopted
Cooperative Relationship between Foreign Language and Geographical Districts—Adopted
Granting Credential Status to Ministers' Spouses—Adopted

The final roster report indicated a voting constituency of 6,118, and a nonvoting constituency of 17,191, for a total registration of 23,309. It was estimated the total attendance at the concluding service was well over 30,000.

With God's blessing we have every reason to expect the future has good things in store for the Assemblies of God.

JOSEPH R. FLOWER
GENERAL SECRETARY

MINUTES OF THE 43RD GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CONVENED AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA AUGUST 8-13, 1989

TUESDAY EVENING—AUGUST 8

The opening service of the 75th Anniversary General Council began at 7:15 p.m. in the Hoosier Dome. Chairman for the service was General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson. The Scripture reading from Psalm 85:1-13 was read by Glen Cole, executive presbyter from the Southwest Area. Paul Ferrin, minister of music, Capital Christian Center, Sacramento, California, was the song leader. Margorie Ferrin, Sacramento, California, and Ramona Crabtree, Springfield, Missouri, served at the organ and piano, respectively. Special music was provided by Lakeview Temple Choir, Indianapolis, Indiana, under the direction of Eddie Hawks.

The speaker for the opening service was Charles T. Crabtree, director of the U.S. Decade of Harvest. He based his sermon on John 4:34-38 and offered three things the Spirit is saying to the Church: "It Is Time for a Spiritual Harvest," "It Is Time for a Biblical Pentecost," and "It Is Time for Fervent Prayer." Brother Crabtree climaxed his message with a call to prayer.

WEDNESDAY MORNING—AUGUST 9

A time of prayer and praise began at 9:15 on Wednesday morning. J. Robert Ashcroft led the singing and prayer time. Dixie Hackett, pastor's wife from Lafayette, Indiana, served at the organ. The following songs were sung during the time of praise: "This Is the Day That the Lord Hath Made," "Bind Us Together," and "We Are Standing on Holy Ground." Psalm 100 was quoted in unison.

Business Session

G. Raymond Carlson, general superintendent, welcomed the ministers and delegates to the opening business session, which convened at 10 a.m. He asked Thomas F. Zimmerman, former general superintendent, to open with prayer.

Introduction of Executive Presbytery

Brother Carlson introduced the members of the Executive Presbytery as follows: Everett Stenhouse, assistant general superintendent; Joseph R. Flower, general secretary; Thomas E. Trask, general treasurer; J. Philip Hogan, executive director of Foreign Missions; Almon M. Bartholomew, Robert L. Brandt, Glen D. Cole, James E. Hamill, J. Foy Johnson, Paul E. Lowenberg, Herman H. Rohde, Robert K. Schmidgall.

Introduction of Retired Executive Presbyters

The retired executives were introduced as follows: N. D. Davidson, G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., Raymond H. Hudson, Dwight H. McLaughlin, Kermit Reneau, Charles W. H. Scott, Bert Webb, and Thomas F. Zimmerman. G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., Dwight H. McLaughlin, and Charles W. H. Scott were unable to be present.

Acknowledgment of Headquarters Personnel

The general superintendent expressed appreciation to all of the headquarters personnel who have worked so hard to coordinate this General Council and make it possible.

Introduction of Fraternal Delegates

Brother Carlson indicated that we have many fraternal delegates attending this General Council as well as a large number of foreign delegates. He indicated that they will be presented at a later date.

Appreciation to City of Indianapolis

Brother Carlson expressed appreciation to the City of Indianapolis for what they have done to make our convention comfortable and commodious. He indicated that Indianapolis has gone out of its way and we appreciate it.

Appreciation to Indiana District

The chairman expressed appreciation to the Indiana District which has done so much to make our coming to Indianapolis a time of pleasure and enjoyment. He asked Charles Crank, superintendent of the Indiana District, to bring greetings and welcome to this convention.

Brother Crank stated that they were honored to host this General Council. He referred to this being the birthplace and home of Thomas F. Zimmerman and that J. Roswell Flower and his wife began the publication of *The Christian Evangel* just west of Indianapolis, which later became the *Pentecostal Evangel*. He extended a warm welcome to all the delegates of the 43rd General Council.

Introduction of National Directors of Divisions

The chairman introduced the following national directors: Everett Stenhouse, acting national director of the Division of Christian Education; Silas L. Gaither, national director of the Division of Church Ministries; Lee Shultz, national director of the Division of Communications; William G. Eastlake, national director of the Division of Publication; J. Philip Hogan, executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions; Robert W. Pirtle, national directors of the Division of Home Missions.

General Council Committees

Brother Carlson expressed appreciation to the convention coordinators and to the members of the General Council Committees and the Operational Committees. Those who served in the respective capacities are as follows:

Budget

Thomas E. Trask, chairman; James D. Biram, Philip Bongiorno, Robert Crabtree, Charles E. Crank, Daniel B. Enriquez, William F. Leach, Ernest Moen, David Rueb, Irvin G. Steiding.

Parliamentary

Jay Alford, chairman; Larry H. Griswold, Thomas L. Weekley

Resolutions

George O. Wood, chairman; Marcus J. Bakke, St. Aubyn Barnaby, Rollin J. Carlson, James Hamill, Ronald F. McManus, J. D. Middlebrook, Samuel Molina, Norman Surratt

Roster

D. Fred Leader, E. E. Kirschman, cochairmen; Charles Anderson, L. Calvin Bacon, Moses Baker, Gerry Bass, Ted Britain, Bill Brummett, Gaylen Carlson, George Clay, Richard Clifton, Lee Coffelt, George Cuff, Glynn Dickens, Kenneth Draughon, Paul Goodman, Joseph Hardt, Gustavo A. Jimenez, C. Eddie Lee, John McDuff, David Moore, William Myers, Gerald Ogg, Rick Roberts, Samuel Sanchez, Jerry Sandidge, Ted Schultz, Lewis Shelton, George Skipper, David Warren, D. E. Wileman, David Williams, E. Joe Wilmoth, Tommy Witt

Spiritual Life

G. Raymond Carlson, chairman; Everett R. Stenhouse, vice chairman; Robert M. Abbott, Harry L. Ayers, Hershel A. Brummett, J. Philip Hogan, Arvid C. Kingsriter, John Palmer, Ronald E. Piedmonte, Robert K. Schmidgall, Karl D. Strader, George O. Wood, Charles W. Denton, resource

Tellers

Warren F. McPherson, chairman; Arden K. Adamson, Robert L. Rose, Donald L. Veater, captains; Basil Adams, David Argue, E. L. Aubuchon, Bill Baker, Joe Ball, Jerry M. Barnard, Vincent Beemer, Harvey Beeton, James Benton, Benjamin Bonnici, Michael Brecheen, Norman Brotzman, John Brown, D. Gene Burgess, Richard Chung, Paul Coran, Charles Cox, Greg Cox, Ronald Cox, David Delgatty, Marvin Dennis, Ronald Dubbels, Hugh Duncan, Lance Faylor, Steven G. Fenton, Guy Fisher, Erich Frank, John Giannattasio, Lawrence C. Gilmore, Paul Grabill, Edward Gran-

holm, Edward L. Grindstaff, James M. Hamilton, George Harden, John L. Harper, William F. Heaston, Gary Heiney, Gary Hines, Claude Johnson, Jerry Lambert, F. L. Langley, A. Wayne Lewis, Paul R. Martin, Roger A. Martin, Larry Moore, Gordon Myers, Jimmy Myers, Philip E. Nissley, Curtis Owens, Michael C. Patterson, Robert Peacock, Gene Petty, Terry Petty, Russell Quackenbush, H. Duane Ratcliff, Jim Reid, Wesley Reynolds, George Rueb, John Short, W. Dean Shumway, Truman Smith, Carl Stephens, Richard M. Stephens, Joel Stocker, Maury Stout, Thurman Strange, Don Strong, Ronald Sullivan, Tollie Sutterfield, Harry Thrasher, Richard Ventonis, Louis E. Walton, John K. Wibley, Ruben A. Wilson, Jr., Jonathan Ziegler

Operational Committees

Steering

G. Raymond Carlson, chairman; Everett Stenhouse, Joseph R. Flower, Thomas E. Trask; Charles W. Denton, resource

Coordinators

Charles W. Denton, chairman; John V. Ohlin, vice chairman

Accounting

Clyde L. Hawkins, chairman; Ed Simmons, Jim Stalnaker, Ken Tripp

Children's Activities

Richard Gruber, chairman; Sandy Askew, Kids Council (ages 5-7); Richard Gruber, Kids Council (ages 8-11); David Detamore, Daniel Howell, David Wigington, local coordinators

Communications/Platform

Lee Shultz, chairman; Mel DeVries, platform coordinator; Ken Riemenschneider, platform assistant; Don Upton, sound; Melvin Snyder, audio/video equipment

Communion Arrangements

Stanley V. Michael, chairman

Equipment

Arlyn Pember, chairman; Ernest Rufenburg, Melvin Snyder

Exhibits

Thomas Sanders, chairman; Carol Ball, David Houghton

Hospitality/Information Center

John Maempa, chairman; David Bundrick, John V. Ohlin

Music (Program Subcommittee)

Lawrence B. Larsen, chairman; Cyril A. McLellan, Merlin Mitchell, John Shows

Photos (Promotions Subcommittee)

Harris Jansen, chairman; Gwen Jones, coordinator; James Allen, Phil Stovall

Printed Materials

Ann Floyd, chairman; Gwen Jones, Sylvia Lee, Gary Leggett

Program Resource

Lee Shultz, chairman; Richard G. Champion, Sandra Clopine, Glen D. Cole, Norman Correll, C. W. Denton, Mel DeVries, Gwen Jones, Lawrence B. Larsen, John V. Ohlin, Robert W. Pirtle, Terry Raburn, Robert Schmidgall, Juleen Turnage

Promotions/Press

Juleen Turnage, chairman; Richard G. Champion, Gwen Jones, Bob Michels

Registration

John V. Ohlin, pre-Council chairman; William G. Eastlake, on-location chairman; Nancy Cox, Jimmy V. Dunn

Resolutions & Reports Expediter

Silas L. Gaither, coordinator, Harris Jansen, editor

Transportation

Lamar Headley, chairman; Melvin Sachs

Ushers

Glenn A. Renick, chairman; Efraim Espinoza, Evan Paul

Youth Congress (Program Subcommittee)

Terry Raburn, chairman; Brenton Osgood, James Wellborn, Thomas Young

Offering

David Rueb, German District superintendent, made the offering appeal. Enoch Fernando, pianist for Praise Ministry, Santa Ana, California, brought a piano solo while the offering was received.

Roster Committee Report

D. Fred Leader, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 10 a.m., Wednesday, August 9:

Ordained ministers	4,420	
Delegates	<u>1,264</u>	
Voting constituency		5,684
Licensed ministers	580	
Visitors	<u>8,030</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>8,610</u>
Total registration		14,294

A motion prevailed to receive the first report of the Roster Committee. The chairman noted that this was over 1,000 more ordained ministers and delegates than the final total last General Council.

Procedural Motion

The following procedural motion was presented:

WHEREAS, One of the announced primary purposes of the General Council is the election of officers; and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of the General Council for the elections to proceed as rapidly and as efficiently as possible while the greatest number of voters are in attendance; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That an order of the day be set to begin the elections as the first order of business in the Wednesday afternoon session, August 9, 1989, and continue thereafter, interspersed with the other business of the General Council, until all elections are completed.

A motion prevailed that this procedural motion be adopted.

Procedural Motion

George Wood, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, presented the following procedural motion, from the Resolutions Committee, with permission, knowledge, and approval of the general superintendent:

WHEREAS, There is much significant business to be discussed during this General Council, including several major committee reports with legislative recommendations, and a total of 38 resolutions; and

WHEREAS, This Council will be hard pressed to adequately process all the business that will come before it; and

WHEREAS, Every effort possible should be given to economize time; and

WHEREAS, The 1987-89 Biennial Report and the Audit Report and major committee reports are already in the hands of the delegates; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That these reports not be read, and that each General

Council officer, including the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions, and the chairmen of major committees reporting to this General Council, be provided opportunity to briefly highlight their report and respond to any questions from the floor.

A motion prevailed that this procedural motion be adopted.

Everett Stenhouse, assistant general superintendent, assumed the role of chairman during the general superintendent's report.

General Superintendent's Report

General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson presented the general superintendent's report to the General Council.

A motion prevailed to receive the report of the general superintendent as it is printed in the 1987-89 Biennial Report booklet with appreciation.

The chair was returned to the general superintendent.

Assistant General Superintendent's Report

Everett Stenhouse, assistant general superintendent, presented his report as contained in the 1987-89 Biennial Report booklet.

A motion prevailed to receive the report with appreciation.

General Secretary's Report

Joseph R. Flower, general secretary, presented his report as printed in the 1987-89 Biennial Report booklet.

A motion prevailed to receive the report with appreciation.

General Treasurer's Report

General Treasurer Thomas E. Trask, who succeeded Raymond H. Hudson on November 1, 1988, presented the general treasurer's report as printed in the 1987-89 Biennial Report booklet.

A motion prevailed to receive the report with appreciation.

Audit Report

Thomas E. Trask, general treasurer, gave an overview of the Audit Report from a summary sheet which was passed out.

Brother Trask gave an update on Evangel College indicating that Evangel College has just concluded its second year in the black. If things continue as they are, by the year 1991, the amount owing by Evangel College, which just a few years ago was right at \$15,000,000, will be reduced to just a little over \$6,000,000 and that amount of money will be able to be amortized through its properties that are revenue returning, such as the dormitories, etc.

Brother Trask answered a few questions relative to the Audit Report.

A motion prevailed to receive the Audit Report.

Divisional and Departmental Reports

A motion prevailed to accept the divisional and departmental reports as contained in the 1987-89 Biennial Report booklet.

Ministers Benefit Association Report

Everett Stenhouse, chairman of Ministers Benefit Association, gave an overview of MBA.

A motion prevailed to accept the Ministers Benefit Association Report as contained in the 1987-89 Biennial Report booklet.

Maranatha Village Report

A motion prevailed to accept the Maranatha Village Report as contained in the 1987-89 Biennial Report booklet.

Report of Committee To Study Resolutions 32-36

William O. Vickery, chairman of the Committee to Study Resolutions 32-36, highlighted the report. George Wood, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, was called upon to present Resolution 3. Credentialing Authority for all Grades of Credentials, since it deals with the matters contained in this report.

Resolution 3. Credentialing Authority for All Grades of Credentials

George Wood, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, read Resolution 3 as follows and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded.

WHEREAS, The Constitution of The General Council of the Assemblies of God makes no provision for the credentialing of Christian workers; and

WHEREAS, The credentialing of licensed ministers is authorized by the districts with only a report to be given to the office of the general secretary; and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of uniformity in granting credentials throughout the fellowship to have all credentials issued by the office of the general secretary; and

WHEREAS, The General Council Constitution, Article X, paragraph f. Amenability to General Council, gives The General Council of the Assemblies of God the responsibility in matters of doctrine and the personal conduct of all ministers who are permitted to have district endorsement; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Article X, paragraph d. Credentialing authority, of the constitution be amended as follows:

d. Credentialing authority. The district council shall have the authority to examine and approve candidates who qualify as Christian workers and licensed ministers. The applications of the approved

candidates shall be endorsed by the districts and forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God for the issuance of the appropriate credential. The district council shall also have the authority to examine and ordain ministers after having received approval from the General Council Credentials Committee. Any certain extent of academic education shall never be a requirement for credentials, but it shall be required of applicants that they take such reading courses and pass examinations as may be prescribed by respective district councils in agreement with the General Council Credentials Committee.

An inquiry was raised as to what prompted this action or what has occurred that has made this necessary. The response was that this is offered just merely to achieve uniformity and efficiency so that credentials for licensed ministers as well as Christian workers will be issued by the general secretary's office in the same manner as ordination has been through the years.

The motion to adopt Resolution 3 was voted on and declared carried.

Report of Committee To Study Resolutions 32-36, continued

George Wood presented Resolution A in the committee report.

A motion prevailed that Resolution A be adopted.

George Wood presented Resolution B in the committee report for adoption.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 12 noon to reconvene at 2 p.m. Victor Trimmer, Gold River, California, closed in prayer.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 8

The Wednesday afternoon session of the 43rd General Council was opened with Paul Ferrin, minister of music at Capital Christian Center, Sacramento, California, leading the congregation in singing, "Blessed be the Name of the Lord," and "All Hail, King Jesus." Serving at the piano and organ, respectively, were Randy Quackenbush, Capital Christian Center, Sacramento, California, and Elnora Dresselhaus, pastor's wife from First Assembly of God, San Diego, California. Prayer for the afternoon session was offered by Kermit Reneau, former assistant general superintendent.

Business Session

The business session was called to order at 2:10 p.m. by the general superintendent

Roster Report

Elmer E. Kirschman, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 2 p.m., Wednesday, August 9.

Ordained ministers	4,607	
Delegates	1,309	
Total voting		5,916
Licensed ministers	632	
Visitors	8,738	
Nonvoting constituency		9,370
Total registration		15,286

A motion prevailed to receive this progress report of the Roster Committee.

Election of Officers

The chairman asked the general secretary to read the bylaws pertaining to the election of officers, Article II, Section 1, page 107.

During a time when delegates were being seated in designated areas for voting, Paul Ferrin led in singing, "We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise Into the House of the Lord," and "Alive, Alive Forevermore."

Election of General Superintendent

Everett Stenhouse assumed chairmanship of the meeting for the election of the general superintendent. Ballots were distributed and Robert L. Brandt, executive presbyter from the Northwest area, led in prayer for God's guidance.

Warren F. McPherson, chairman of the Tellers Committee, reported results for the nominating ballot for the office of general superintendent as follows:

Votes cast	2,742
Needed to elect	1,828
G. Raymond Carlson received	2,261

Having received well above the required number of votes, the assistant general superintendent declared G. Raymond Carlson reelected as general superintendent.

Brother Carlson responded with an expression of appreciation and acceptance stating that he will do his best to continue leadership as the Lord enables him.

The following is a list of all other nominees: Kent Anderson 1, J. Robert Ashcroft 1, Almon Bartholomew 2, Robert Brandt 1, James K. Bridges 3, Warren Bullock 1, Glen Cole 64, Manuel Cordero 1, Hugh Corey 3, Charles Crabtree 64, Charles Crank 7, Richard Dobbins 1, Richard Dreselhaus 1, George Edgerly 1, Robert H. Fisher 1, David Flower 1, J. Don George 1, George Hardin 2, James Hennesy 1, Gene Jackson 3, J. Foy

Johnson 5, Clarence Lambert 2, Vaudrey Lambert 1, William Leach 1, Maurice Lednicky 3, Paul Lowenberg 1, Larry Malcolm 1, Frank Martin 1, Sam Mayo 1, Armon Newburn 12, Robert Novak 1, Kermit Reneau 1, Roy Sapp 1, Robert Schmidgall 120, Robert Spence 1, Everett Stenhouse 155, Thomas Trask 4, C. M. Ward 2, George Wood 1, Woodrow Yasuhara 1, Thomas F. Zimmerman 4.

Report of Committee To Study Resolutions 32-36, continued

It was pointed out that at the noon recess a motion to adopt Resolution B was before the body. After a time of discussion the motion to adopt Resolution B was carried.

Resolution C of the report was read by George Wood, and note was made of the changes proposed for Article IX, Discipline.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution C be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Section 2 of Article IX, relating to the relationship between the district and General Council Credentials Committees be deleted. The motion was lost.

A motion was made and seconded to amend Section 7, paragraph c, page 5, lines 5 and 6, by inserting "and" before the parenthetical (d) on line 5 and placing a period after the word "cooperate" on line 6, and deleting the remainder of the sentence. After a time of discussion the motion to amend was adopted.

A motion was made and seconded to amend page 20, Section 5, paragraph b so that the lead-in title would read, "Division of Foreign Missions." The motion was lost.

A motion prevailed that the lead-in for Section 5, paragraph a, page 19, be amended to read, "Within the Districts of The General Council of the Assemblies of God."

The motion to adopt Resolution C as amended was carried. Appreciation was expressed to the members of the committee for its thorough work.

The report of the committee as amended and adopted follows:

In its deliberations the committee reviewed the minutes of the 1985 and 1987 General Councils. In addition the committee received referrals from the Executive Presbytery regarding matters closely related to the area of the bylaws under the assigned purview of the committee.

Resolution 32 dealt with ministerial discipline, Article IX, A, Section 4. Its purpose was intended to give clearer definition to the word "suspension" and its use in matters affecting ministerial credentials. While Resolution 33 was broader in scope, dealing with the "Preparation and Filing of Charges" it, too, addressed the use of the term "suspension" in its proposed amendment to Article IX, A, Section 5.

The intent of Resolutions 34-36 respectively are as follows:

34. Provide clarity regarding the circumstances under which a dismissed minister may be placed in a rehabilitation program.

35. Provide clarity as to the time when the name of a dismissed minister shall be published in the ministers letter.

36. Provide clarity regarding the extent to which one may minister while in a rehabilitation program. This resolution also touched on the use of the term suspension.

The referrals from the Executive Presbytery were in effect an assignment to:

1. Edit Article IX, A, of the bylaws; and
2. Consider the possibility of the office of the general secretary becoming the issuing office for all Assemblies of God credentials.

The specific issues to be addressed were:

1. To clearly define the authority and relationship of both the district and General Council in matters affecting discipline and rehabilitation.
2. To distinguish between disciplinary and non-disciplinary action regarding one's credential status and to clarify the difference between dismissal and rehabilitation.
3. To eliminate duplication, to restrict the subject within a section to its heading, to eliminate ambiguities and to rearrange the textual content in a more logical sequence.
4. To clarify the relationship of licensed ministers and Christian workers, should the office of the general secretary become the issuing office for all credentials.

With due respect for the comprehensive scope of the assignment and the sensitive nature of some of the subject matter the committee has approached its work diligently and prayerfully. The committee is keenly aware that this will be the third time that Resolutions 32-36 will have been submitted to a General Council. A careful review of prior discussions and actions has been a part of the deliberations of the committee in the hope that all previously expressed concerns will have been fairly considered and acted upon.

The FINDINGS of the committee are:

1. That some procedures and subject matter discussed in Article IX, A, Discipline, are actually non-disciplinary.
2. That the use of the word suspension in both a disciplinary and non-disciplinary context continues to cause confusion and misunderstanding.
3. That the intents and purposes of Resolutions 34, 35, and 36 are appropriate and beneficial.
4. That the referral from the Executive Presbytery calling attention to the need for the revision of Article IX, A, is related to the committee's original assignment and can be appropriately included as a part of this report.
5. That the referral from the Executive Presbytery regarding the office of the general secretary issuing all credentials has merit, especially in view of the need to maintain uniformity in all credentials matters.

The RECOMMENDATIONS of the committee are:

1. That all non-disciplinary subject matter be moved from Article IX, A, Discipline, to other appropriate areas of the bylaws, primarily to Article VII, Ministry.
 2. That the term "suspension" will be limited to use following a district presbytery action in conjunction with disciplinary measures and/or rehabilitation programs. Any restrictions of ministry which may be warranted prior to district presbytery actions will be referred to as a "restriction" and will be at the discretion of the district officary commensurate with the nature of the complaint, charge or confession. It should be noted that neither suspensions nor restrictions are to be published in the ministers letter.
 3. That the intents and purposes of Resolutions 34, 35, and 36 should be recognized and included in any proposed amendments.
 4. That Article IX, A, Discipline, be further edited to give clarity, continuity and restrict subject matter to specific headings.
 5. That the proposed amendment to the constitution embodied in Resolution #3 be adopted; and that provision be made for all Assemblies of God credentials, (i.e., certificates of ordination, license to preach, specialized ministries licenses, and Christian workers certificates) to be issued by the office of the general secretary; and that the relationships of the latter three credentials holders with the General Council Credentials Committee be further clarified.
- In the event the General Council should concur in any or all of the findings and recommendations of the committee, the following proposed amendments to the bylaws will be necessary for implementation.

RESOLUTION A Article IV

(Note: Proposed Section 2 as follows:)

Section 2. Credentials Committee

The Executive Presbytery shall constitute the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, hereinafter referred to as the General Council Credentials Committee.

It shall have the authority to issue certificates of ordination, licenses to preach, specialized ministries licenses and Christian workers certificates, and to issue annual fellowship cards to those persons whose renewal questionnaires have received district endorsement. It may delegate the routine work of the Credentials Committee to the Board of Administration.

RESOLUTION B Article VII

(Note: Proposed Article VII, will read as follows. Notes indicate the source from which material is derived.)

Section 1. Ministry Described

Christ's gifts to the Church include apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers (Ephesians 4:11); exhorters, administrators, leaders, and helpers (Romans 12:7,8).

In terms of maturity of ministry, three classifications of ministry are recognized, viz., the ordained minister, the licensed minister, and the Christian worker.

Ministers holding certificates of ordination, license to preach, and specialized ministries licenses are authorized to perform the ordinances and ceremonies (sacerdotal functions) of the church.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article VII, Section 1, no change.)

Section 2. Basic Qualifications

The following qualifications pertain to all applicants for ministerial recognition:

- a. Salvation. Testimony to having experienced the new birth (John 3:5).
- b. Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Testimony to having received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the initial physical evidence of speaking in other tongues according to Acts 2:4. The Spirit-filled life will enable him to fulfill the threefold mission of the church (Article V, Paragraph 10, of the constitution).
- c. Evidence of call. Clear evidence of a divine call to the ministry, evidenced by a personal conviction, confirmed by the work of the Spirit and the testimony of fellow ministers.
- d. Christian character. A blameless Christian life and a good report of those who are without (Titus 1:7; 1 Timothy 3:7).
- e. Doctrinal position. A thorough understanding of and agreement with our doctrinal position as contained in the Statement of Fundamental Truths.
- f. Assemblies of God polity. A satisfactory working knowledge of the principles, practices, and purposes of the Fellowship through a study of the General Council and district council constitution and bylaws.
- g. Commitment to the Fellowship. An active loyalty to our constitutional agreements, a cooperative spirit, and a readiness to seek and receive the counsel of older brethren and those in positions of authority.
- h. Basic educational requirements. Any level of formal academic achievement (diploma or degree) shall not be a requirement for credentials; however, it shall be required of applicants that they demonstrate adequate knowledge of (1) the Bible, (2) Assemblies of God doctrines, and (3) ministerial practices by either having completed the prescribed courses of the Berean College of the Assemblies of God as specified by the General Presbytery, or by passing standardized examinations approved by the General Presbytery, which shall give evidence of having accomplished the same through self-study and life experience, or by equivalent training in an approved school, together with such other training as may be required by respective district councils in conformity with such provisions as are made for applicants by the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.
- i. Marriage status. We disapprove of any married persons holding ministerial credentials with the Assemblies of God or district councils granting credentials to such, if either marriage partner has a former companion living, except as hereinafter provided.
- j. Annulments and marriage dissolutions. The Executive Presbytery shall have the authority to determine whether an applicant's annulment of a former marriage is consistent with the scriptural position of the Fellowship relating to the granting or holding of ministerial credentials; or, in the case of a divorce or a dissolution whether the circumstances would more appropriately be classified as calling for an annulment. The application must be accompanied by clear and satisfactory evidence of an illegal marriage through deception or fraud. Appeals from the decisions of the Executive Presbytery may be made to the General Presbytery.
- k. Eligibility of women. The Scriptures plainly teach that divinely called and qualified women may also serve the church in the ministry of the Word (Judith 13:6; Acts 21:9; 1 Corinthians 14:34).

Women who have developed in the ministry of the Word so that their ministry is acceptable generally, and who have proved their qualifications in actual service, and who have met all the requirements of the credentials committees of the district councils, are entitled to whatever grade of credentials their qualifications warrant and the right to administer the ordinances of the church when such acts are necessary.

1. Ministers from other organizations. If a minister from another reputable body desires to affiliate with the Assemblies of God, the credentials committees of both the General Council and the district councils are under no obligation to accept the applicant's previous ministerial status, but will judge each candidate on his or her own merits as to the level of credentials to be granted. Such applicants shall be required to:

- (1) Conform to Assemblies of God criteria for recognition.
- (2) Complete an application for ministerial recognition.
- (3) Submit a recommendation for ministerial recognition.
- (4) Submit a recommendation from the body with which he/she was formerly affiliated. If such is not available, letters of recommendation should be sought from three reputable ordained ministers who are familiar with the applicant's ministry.

- (5) Take the credential examination.
- (6) Meet with the credentials committee.
- (7) Be recommended by the district credentials committee for the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee.

(8) All previously ordained ministers so approved shall receive recognition as ordained Assemblies of God ministers with the laying on of hands by the district presbytery.

(9) Ministers who receive Assemblies of God recognition will relinquish their ministerial credentials with any other organization.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article VII, Section 2. Headings added to paragraph a to g and paragraph (8) reworded.)

Section 3. Graded Qualifications

a. Christian worker. Efficient helpers in gospel work who devote a part of their time to Christian service, and whenever possible remain under the supervision of a pastor, may be recognized as Christian workers. They shall preach at least 12 times a year or be actively engaged in some other aspect of ministry, except in case of ill health or infirmity.

b. Licensed minister. Qualifications for license shall be in two categories:

(1) Preaching ministry. Clear evidence of a divine call, a practical experience in preaching, together with an evident purpose to devote one's time to preaching the gospel. They shall preach at least 15 times a year, except in case of ill health or infirmity.

(2) Specialized ministry. An evident purpose to devote one's time to a specialized ministry such as Christian education, music, or other full-time ministries. The same qualifications as outlined in Section 2 of this article shall apply.

c. Ordained minister. Qualifications for ordination are outlined in the New Testament Scriptures (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:7-9). In addition:

(1) Applicants must be 23 years of age or older.

(2) They must have met all the requirements in making application and in completing the prescribed application form.

(3) No person may be ordained to the ministry until he shall have held a license to preach and shall have been engaged in active work as a pastor, evangelist, or some other recognized and proven full-time preaching ministry for at least 2 full consecutive years immediately prior thereto.

(4) Residency requirements of applicants. Applicants must be residents of or hold credentials in the district where they make application and appear before its credentials committee. District councils are required to refrain from approving any applicant for ordination who may have been licensed in another district, until such licensed minister shall have been a member of the district in which he is seeking ordination at least 1 year. If the applicant has not been a member of the district where he applies for ordination for 2 full consecutive years, he must meet the requirements and secure the endorsement of the officary of the district in which he was previously licensed, as well as the district of his residence.

(5) Exceptions to residency requirements. In the event that an applicant has qualified and been approved for ordination by the district of his former residence before being publicly

ordained, the district where he resides may waive the 1-year residency requirement and ordain him upon the request or approval of his former district.

(6) In order to maintain active status, ordained ministers must preach at least 15 times each year.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article VII, Section 3. No change except in lead-ins for paragraphs b and c.)

Section 4. Action of Credentials Committees

a. Christian worker and licensed minister. The General Council Credentials Committee delegates to the district councils the authority to approve candidates who qualify as Christian workers and licensed ministers. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed by the districts and forwarded to the office of the general secretary for the issuance of the appropriate credential.

b. Ordained minister. The General Council Credentials Committee has the authority to approve candidates who qualify for ordination. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed and recommended by the districts to the General Council Credentials Committee for approval prior to the public ordination. All ordinations shall take place under the auspices of the district councils.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article VII, Section 4. Both paragraphs reworded.)

Section 5. Certificates

The General Council Credentials Committee is authorized to issue ordination certificates, licenses to preach, specialized ministries licenses, and Christian workers certificates, together with the accompanying annual fellowship cards, to all properly qualified and approved applicants.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article VII, Section 5, paragraphs a and b combined.)

Section 6. Official List

a. Active ministers. The official list of all credential holders shall be compiled by the General Council Credentials Committee and published for the convenience of the Fellowship, with the understanding it is not to be used for purposes of solicitation. This official list shall be revised annually and shall contain the names of those who are engaged in active ministry and whose credentials have been renewed by the issuance of a fellowship card for the current year.

b. Inactive ministers. All credentialed ministers who shall withdraw from active ministry or shall cease to engage in pastoral, evangelistic, or other full-time ministry shall be expected to notify the district office, which shall inform the general secretary. He shall then be authorized to transfer the names of such persons to the inactive list, unless the district of which said person is a member specifically requests otherwise.

(1) Definition. All ordained and licensed ministers who shall have preached less than 15 times and Christian workers who shall have preached less than 12 times within a period of 1 year shall have their names placed upon the inactive list for the following year.

(2) Removal of inactive ministers from ministerial list. When a minister is definitely inactive for 2 consecutive years, his name shall be eliminated from the ministerial list, unless the credentials committee of the district of which said person is a member specifically requests otherwise by letter.

(3) Exceptions. This shall not apply to those whose inactivity has been caused by the infirmity of advanced age or ill health; or those engaged in other aspects of full-time ministry such as headquarters or district workers, educators, ministers of music, ministers of youth, and ministers of Christian education; or those who have reached the age of 60 years; or those ministers who have had 25 years of approved service as credentialed ministers.

(4) Disabled ministers. A permanently disabled or permanently ill minister whose illness prevents him or her from engaging in active ministry shall be indicated as inactive. The credential status of the disabled minister shall remain unchanged. The annual renewal of his or her credentials shall take place in the regular manner. Disabled ministers thus approved by their district shall not have further obligation of financial support to the General Council.

c. Restoration to active status. Should the minister at any time return to active ministry, his or her name may be restored to the active list upon application bearing endorsement by the district officary.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article VII, Section 6. Some changes in wording.)

Section 7. Senior Ministers

In respect and honor to those ministers who have given years of service to the Fellowship, senior status shall automatically be given to all credential holders who have reached the age of 65, whether they continue in full-time ministry or not.

a. Terminology

(1) The term senior-active shall be used for credential holders who continue to serve three-quarters to full-time in the ministry.

(2) The term senior-semiretired shall be used for credential holders who continue to be active, but for half-time or less.

(3) The term senior-retired shall be used for credential holders who have ceased to engage in any regular appointed ministry.

b. Application for retired category. Senior-semiretired and senior-retired status shall be granted only to those ministers who filed a request for such status with their district office. The district secretary shall forward annually to the general secretary a list of those ministers who have made these requests.

c. Guidelines

(1) Reports. Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to file their annual reports and pay the General Council portion of their tithes in the regular manner. Senior-retired ministers shall file an abbreviated report to maintain a correct address file for mail and insurance purposes.

(2) Sources of income. These designations and guidelines shall apply regardless of whether the senior minister's income is from his ministry, from retirement plans or Social Security payments, or from investments or other employment.

(3) Designation in publications. No distinguishing mark shall accompany the listing of senior-active in the official publications of the Assemblies of God, but may be so indicated in the working lists used for insurance and retirement purposes. Senior-semiretired and senior-retired ministers shall have this status appropriately indicated in the Official List of Assemblies of God Ministers.

(4) Support of General Council headquarters. Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to designate the required amount of support to the General Council headquarters as set forth in Bylaws Article XVIII, Section 1, c, (1). Senior-retired ministers shall be free to distribute as they desire the portion of their tithes previously paid to the General Council.

d. Limitations of this Section 7

(1) For General Council usage only. The definitions and decisions included in Section 7 apply only to General Council usage and are not binding upon the various districts, nor to the official legislation under which their members serve.

(2) Other financial responsibility not circumvented. No part of Section 7 is intended to modify the responsibility of ministers to their districts nor to terminate the biblical responsibility for tithing.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article VII, Section 8.)

Section 8. Ministerial Relations

a. Amenability. All ministers holding credentials shall be amenable to both the district council and The General Council of the Assemblies of God in matters of doctrine and conduct.

b. Affiliation with district of residence. All credential holders shall be expected to be affiliated with the district council within the boundaries of which they reside and work in cooperation with the same.

(1) Exception. In the case where a minister resides in one district but pastors a church located in another district, he shall be required to be a member of the district in which the church is located.

(2) Nationally appointed home missionary. A nationally appointed home missionary shall become a member of the district in which he/she serves and shall be listed on the ministerial roster of that district by the office of the general secretary. He/she may also retain honorary membership in his/her home district, be listed as a missionary under national appointment in the home district's yearbook, and be extended voice and vote in his/her home district while on official furlough.

c. Cooperation with other districts. Ministers shall be expected to cooperate with other district councils in which they may labor temporarily. It is recommended as a standard of

proper practice that all ordained and licensed ministers conform to the financial policy of the district with which they are affiliated with the following exceptions.

(1) Financial responsibility of foreign missionaries. Foreign missionaries will be obligated to pay \$25 per month to their home district when resident in the U. S. and \$10 per month when resident on their fields.

(2) Financial responsibility of chaplains. All chaplains, military and institutional, will be obligated to their home district in the amount of 10 percent of their tithes from income earned from the chaplaincy. All chaplains are also encouraged to make voluntary contributions to the district in which they fulfill their assignments.

(3) Financial responsibility of nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries. Nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries shall contribute 25 percent of their tithe to their member district where they serve and 25 percent of their tithe to their home district if they are listed as honorary members. The missionary who ministers in his home district shall contribute a minimum of 50 percent of his/her tithe to that district.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article VII, Section 9.)

Section 9. Transfer of Credentials

a. Certificate of transfer. When a member minister takes up residence in another district, a certificate of transfer shall be issued within 60 days by the district of which he/she is a member, unless there are definite charges pending against him/her. The certificate of transfer shall be accepted by the district into which he/she moves. Exceptions may be made for the following:

(1) Ministers moving to serve at general headquarters.

(2) Those who have attained the age of 60 and are no longer engaged in active ministry and those who have attained the age of 65 and are not pastoring a church.

(3) Those who are in the Armed Forces currently on active duty.

(4) Those who are serving on the staffs of schools affiliated with the General Council and district council or nonaffiliated schools acceptable to the General Council and the district council in which the school is located.

(5) Those who are appointed home missionaries or foreign missionaries who are on furlough or on temporary assignment in the United States and reside in a district other than their home district.

(6) Ministers having membership in one district and a mailing address only in another district.

(7) Students in schools outside their home districts.

(8) Those who are serving in a non-Assemblies of God institution providing:

(a) They have a regular scope of ministry which reaches beyond district boundaries.

(b) Both districts agree to the exception.

(c) The institution is acceptable to both districts.

b. Transcript. In order to assist a member who is transferring into another district, a transcript giving helpful information concerning him/her and his/her spouse should accompany the certificate of transfer.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article VII, Section 10.)

Section 10. Credential Renewals and Reinstatements

a. Terminology

(1) Renewed. The term renewed shall apply to all ministers who have met the annual deadline for renewal including those who are delinquent but who renew by February 15.

(2) Reinstated. The term reinstated shall apply to the persons whose names have been deleted from the official ministerial list, who upon application, are approved for restoration of credentials.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 10, e, wording abridged.)

b. Expiration date. All fellowship certificates are valid only until January 31 of each year and must be renewed annually. The renewing of credentials is the responsibility of the individual minister. In the event a minister does not receive his/her renewal form by January 1, he/she should notify his/her district office.

c. Grace period until February 15. All who shall have failed to renew their fellowship certificates by mail postmarked on or before January 31 shall be considered delinquent. They shall be required to pay a late fee of \$25 up until February 15. After this date, equal to the fee on the district and General Council offices

d. Reinstatement of lapsed minister. Ministers whose renewal applications are not postmarked by February 15 shall be recorded as lapsed as of the expiration date of January 31. They must make application for reinstatement and pay a nonrefundable fee of \$50, which shall be divided equally between the district and the General Council offices. These ministers shall not be subject to the minimal time-lapse required of those whose credentials have been terminated for other causes.

e. Reinstatement of other than dismissed minister. When a minister who is a member of our Fellowship shall have been removed from our rolls for any cause, except failure to renew and dismissal, and shall apply for reinstatement, he/she shall in no case be eligible for reinstatement until at least 6 months shall have elapsed after his/her name has been stricken from our list of ministers. The application must be made in the district where he/she resides and be accompanied with a nonrefundable fee of \$50 which will be divided between the national and district offices. (See Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 12, paragraph a. for reinstatement of dismissed minister.)

The district of residence shall seek a letter of clearance from the district which processed the termination and, upon receipt of the clearance, may add its endorsement and forward the application, together with the letter of clearance, to the General Council Credentials Committee for its action.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article VII, Section 6.)

Section 11. Non-disciplinary Credential Terminations

a. On the initiative of the minister.

(1) Lapsed. A minister who does not elect to renew his credentials, providing there is no cause for disciplinary action, shall be listed as having "lapsed." His name shall be published as "lapsed" in the Assemblies of God Minister, hereinafter referred to as the ministers letter.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 7, a, (1).)

(2) Resigned. A minister who has elected to remove himself from the Fellowship shall submit a letter of resignation to the district with which he is affiliated. If there is no cause for disciplinary action, his resignation shall be accepted. His termination shall be listed in the ministers letter as "resigned."

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 7, a, (2), wording abridged.)

b. On the initiative of the district. (See Article IX, A, Section 4)

(1) Inactive. When a minister becomes inactive for 2 consecutive years, according to the stipulations set forth in Article VII, Section 6, paragraph b, of the bylaws, his name shall be published as "inactive" in the ministers letter.

(2) Not renewed. If in the opinion of the credentials committees a minister's credentials should not be renewed short of disciplinary action, his name shall be published as "Not renewed" in the ministers letter.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 7, b, (2) and (3).)

c. As a result of affiliation with another church organization. In the event a minister shall identify himself with another organization granting ministerial credentials, and shall have received such credentials, his credentials with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be terminated. An investigation shall be made to determine the proper category of termination.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 7, c.)

d. Surrender of credentials. In all cases the minister shall be requested to surrender his credential (certificate of ordination, license to preach, specialized ministries license, Christian workers certificate) and his current fellowship card to the district office. The district shall forward these to the office of the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Refusal to surrender his credential and current fellowship card shall be considered insubordination and may result in placing a charge against the minister.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 7 first paragraph.)

Section 12. Ministerial Status Changes

All changes in a minister's status are to be reported immediately by his/her district office, which in turn is to report this information to the office of the general secretary of the General Council, on the Ministerial Status Report form provided by that office.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article VII, Section 11.)

Section 13. Privileged Communications

Assemblies of God ministers are encouraged to respect as sacred and confidential information confided to them while they are functioning in their ministerial capacities as spiritual counselors and are encouraged not to disclose such confidential information except with the permission of the confidant or to prevent the commission of a crime.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article VII, Section 12.)

RESOLUTION C ARTICLE IX. DISCIPLINE A. ACTION OF CREDENTIAL COMMITTEES

(Note: Proposed Article IX, A, will read as follows. Notes indicate source from which material is derived.)

Section 1. The Nature and Purposes of Discipline

Discipline is an exercise of scriptural authority for which the church is responsible. The aims of discipline are that God may be honored, that the purity and welfare of the ministry may be maintained, and that those under discipline may be brought to repentance and restoration.

Discipline is to be administered for the restoration of the minister, while fully providing for the protection of the spiritual welfare of our local assemblies. It is to be redemptive in nature as well as corrective and is to be exercised as under a dispensation of mercy.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 1.)

Section 2. The Relationship Between the District and General Council Credentials Committees

The Executive Presbytery of the General Council is the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God (Constitution Article X, paragraphs d and f). It shall have the final authority in matters of doctrine and the personal conduct of all ministers. District actions related to the termination of credentials or the remedial discipline of rehabilitation are to be in the form of recommendations to the General Council Credentials Committee.

(Note: The intent of 1987 General Council Resolution 36 is embodied in this Section 2.)

Section 3. Causes of Disciplinary Action

Violations of Assemblies of God principles as stated in these Constitution and Bylaws may give cause for disciplinary action by the credentials committees. Among such causes for action shall be:

- a. Any moral failure involving sexual misconduct.
- b. Any moral or ethical failure other than sexual misconduct.
- c. General inefficiency in the ministry.
- d. A failure to represent our Pentecostal testimony correctly.
- e. A contentious or noncooperative spirit.
- f. An assumption of dictatorial authority over an assembly.
- g. An arbitrary rejection of district counsel.
- h. A declared open change in doctrinal views.
- i. A habit of running into debt which brings reproach upon the cause.
- j. A marriage in violation of our stand on marriage and divorce (See Article VIII, B, Section 5, paragraphs d and e.)
- k. Violations of ministerial courtesy (See Article VIII, B, Section 8.)
- l. Ministry without prior approval in a non-Assemblies of God church. (See Article VIII, B, Section 9.)
- m. An improper attitude toward those dismissed from the Fellowship (See Article VIII, B, Section 10.)

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 2, a, divided into a and b, and the others relettered.)

Section 4. Right of Initiative

a. Authority. Occasions sometimes arise which make it necessary to deal with ministers who for some reason seem to have reached the place where, in the opinion of the brethren, endorsement can no longer be given. Credentials committees which have the authority to ordain ministers and to recommend them for credentials also have the right to withdraw approval and to recommend the recall of credentials.

b. Prior right of district. The officary of the district in which an alleged offense is reported to have occurred shall be recognized as having the prior right of initiative in matters of discipline.

c. Responsibility of district of affiliation. If the district in which an alleged offense is reported to have occurred for some reason cannot take action, the General Council Credentials Committee shall refer the matter, together with the facts and supporting instruments, to the district with which the minister is affiliated.

d. Responsibility of General Council Credentials Committee. In the event a district fails to take action within 90 days after a matter has been referred to it, it shall be the responsibility of the General Council Credentials Committee to see that action is initiated.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 3.)

Section 5. Investigation of Reports or Complaints of Alleged Violations or Confessions of Violations of Assemblies of God Principles

a. Within the Districts of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Reports or complaints of alleged violations of Assemblies of God principles (Article IX, A, Section 3) or confessions of such by a minister shall be investigated. The superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is reported to have occurred, and/or an appointed representative(s) shall conduct the investigation to determine their source and validity. It is the responsibility of the district superintendent to safeguard the church, the minister, the district, and the Fellowship. In the event such reports or complaints against a minister are filed with the General Council Credentials Committee, they shall be referred to the district in which the offense occurred for investigation. A copy shall be sent to the district with which the minister is affiliated.

(1) Interview with Complainant(s). The persons involved shall be interviewed in order to ascertain the facts in the case and the reasons underlying the persistence of the reports or complaints.

(2) Interview with accused minister(s). The accused minister(s) shall be given an opportunity to be interviewed to discuss the complaints received in the hope that the matter can be resolved.

(3) Signed complaints. In the event the investigation so warrants, signed complaints shall be filed with the district office by the complainant(s) describing the alleged violation(s).

(4) Conditions for ministry during investigation. Conditions of continuing ministry may be subject to restriction during the time of investigation at the discretion of the appropriate district officers on the basis of evidence at hand and the nature of the alleged offense. Such conditions are subject to review in 3-month intervals until such investigation has been completed resulting in either clearing the person of the allegations or the filing of formal charges.

b. Outside United States. In case the alleged misconduct occurs outside the United States in an area under the general oversight of the Division of Foreign Missions, that division shall take the initiative to file complete data with the district of the minister's affiliation. Any hearing or trial affecting that individual's ministerial credentials shall be held in the district of the minister's affiliation. The Division of Foreign Missions shall convey all information available to the said district as follows:

(1) Report to district of affiliation. At the earliest date after the Division of Foreign Missions receives a report of misconduct, such report shall be conveyed by telephone and by letter to the superintendent of the district with which the minister is affiliated.

(2) Confidential file. A confidential file shall be submitted to the superintendent, conveying all information as it becomes available to the division. A final complete file shall be prepared under the direction of the field director of the field involved and shall be presented to the district superintendent for use in any action the district may take.

(3) Additional information. When in the judgment of the Division of Foreign Missions or the district involved, basic information is lacking (which information may be available at the site of the alleged misconduct), arrangements may be made for the gathering of such.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 4.)

Section 6. Preparation and Filing of Charges

If after due investigation it is determined that charges should be made, proper charges shall be prepared and filed in the district office. If no one appears to sign the charges, members of the district officiating making the investigation may file charges based on the evidence in their possession. The person against whom charges have been filed shall be informed in writing by certified mail of the charges made in keeping with Article IX, Section 3.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 5. This addresses the intent of 1987 General Council Resolution 33.)

Section 7. District Hearing and Discipline

a. District hearing. In the event the reports or complaints cannot be dealt with privately to the satisfaction of all concerned, the superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is said to have occurred, or the superintendent of the district with which the minister

is affiliated, shall arrange for a hearing by the district credentials committee for the accused minister. The minister shall be required to appear at the hearing in the hope the matter can be resolved.

b. Forfeiture of rights of accused. A hearing shall not be considered as final disposition of the case until the accused be present and be allowed all rights and privileges granted herein. However, an accused member may be found guilty of charges and disciplined if he refuses to appear at the hearing, or if proof is found of willful neglect on his part to take advantage of his rights and privileges.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 6, first two paragraphs.)

c. Discipline

(1) Cause for discipline. A minister who has been found guilty of violating any of the Assemblies of God principles set forth in Article IX, A, Section 3, either by a confession of the minister involved or by deliberation of the district presbytery, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 7, paragraph b, (1), first sentence and Section 9, half of first sentence.)

(2) Determination of Discipline. It shall be the responsibility of the credentials committees to determine whether the circumstances of the case merit rehabilitation or dismissal. The credentials committees shall weigh decisions on: (a) the basis of the offense itself, (b) the manner and thoroughness of repentance, (c) the attitude of the offending minister toward the discipline, and (d) the willingness manifested to cooperate.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 9, last half of first sentence and Section 7, b, (1), third sentence. Embodies the essence of 1987 General Council Resolution 34.)

(3) Administering discipline redemptively. If the district determines that guilt has been established, discipline shall be administered prayerfully and in the fear of God, in accordance with the Scriptures, and as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of this ecclesiastical body (Bylaws Article IX, A, Sections 8 and 9).

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 6, third paragraph.)

d. Surrender of credentials. The disciplined minister shall be required to surrender his ministerial credentials and his current fellowship card to the district office. In the event of rehabilitation the credentials shall be held in the district office. In the event of dismissal the district shall forward the credentials to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Refusal to surrender his ministerial credentials and current fellowship card may result in placing an additional charge against the minister.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 7, first paragraph.)

Section 8. Rehabilitation

Recognizing that the underlying principle involved in discipline is redemptive, and that man's conscience frequently brings him to judgment and confession, and that justice can sometimes be best served with mercy, an effort should be made to lead the offending minister through a program of rehabilitation, administered in brotherly love and kindness. The following provisions for rehabilitation shall apply:

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 9, paragraph 1, last sentence, and Section 7, paragraph b, second sentence.)

a. Basis. Those found to have violated any of the Assemblies of God principles (Article IX, A, Section 3) may request a program of rehabilitation as an alternative to dismissal. Granting such request shall be at the discretion of the district and General Council credentials committees.

b. Period of time. The program for rehabilitation shall continue for not less than 1 year except when the violation involves misconduct defined in Article IX, A, Section 3, paragraph a, in which case it shall continue for not less than 2 years.

c. Procedure and requirements. The following procedure shall be used by the district presbytery in determining the specific requirements of rehabilitation for the individual minister.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 9, paragraph a, b, and c.)

(1) Rehabilitation requirements. The specific terms and conditions of the rehabilitation program as recommended by the district credentials committee are to be forwarded to the General Council Credentials Committee for approval. After such approval they shall be given to the minister.

(Note: New paragraph.)

(a) Suspension. The minister shall be considered to be under suspension during the entire period of rehabilitation.

(b) Extent of ministry. The extent to which ministry may be permitted, if any, shall be determined by the district presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee. Certain offenses may not require complete cessation of ministerial activities, although some restrictions or limitations may be warranted.

(c) District membership. The minister shall not be permitted to transfer his membership to another district during the period of rehabilitation.

(d) Publication. While the minister's credentials are in a state of suspension, his name shall not be removed from the ministerial roster, nor shall his disciplinary status be published in either the General Council or district council official publications.

(e) Credentials renewal. He shall renew his credentials annually in the regular manner.

(f) Supervision. In the event his ministerial activity has been terminated, the minister must become established in a local church working under the supervision of a pastor and presbyter.

(g) Reports. The minister must submit reports quarterly to the district superintendent.

(h) Ministerial benefits. During the program of rehabilitation the minister shall continue to be eligible for benefits such as the ministers group insurance and Ministers Benefit Association.

(i) Program administration. The approved rehabilitation program shall be administered by the district presbytery.

(2) District progress reports. The credentials committee of the district shall submit to the General Council Credentials Committee on February 1 and August 1 of each calendar year a progress report relative to the rehabilitation of ministers under discipline.

(3) Completion of rehabilitation. When the rehabilitation program has been satisfactorily completed the suspension shall be lifted and the minister shall be restored to good standing.

(4) Classified information. The rehabilitation record shall not accompany the Certificate of Transfer to another district. The information shall be preserved for future reference in the files of the district and the General Council Credentials Committee.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 9, a reworking of paragraph c.)

d. Eligibility in Special Circumstances

(1) Previous rehabilitation. In the event a minister has completed a prior rehabilitation program, and is again found to be in violation of Assemblies of God principles, the district shall first obtain permission from the General Council Credentials Committee before recommending a second rehabilitation program as prescribed in Section 8 of this article.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article XI, A, Section 9, paragraph d (2).)

(2) Previous dismissal. In the event a minister who has been dismissed requests reinstatement, the district shall first obtain permission from the General Council Credentials Committee before submitting an appropriate rehabilitation program as prescribed in Section 8 of this article. He shall not be eligible for reinstatement until the requirements for rehabilitation have been completed. Consideration may also be given to a minister if in the opinion of the credentials committees he has satisfactorily fulfilled the remedial requirements of such rehabilitation.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 9, paragraph d, subparagraphs (1) and (2) and Section 10, paragraph b.)

Section 9. Referral for Action to the General Council Credentials Committee

a. District recommendation

(1) Rehabilitation. When a minister is to be placed in a rehabilitation program in accordance with Section 8 of this article, the district shall forward to the General Council Credentials Committee the specific charges and recommended terms of rehabilitation. The district shall inform the minister involved of its action and, where applicable, the superintendent of the minister's district of affiliation.

(Note: New paragraph.)

(2) Dismissal. When a minister has been found guilty of violating any of the Assemblies of God principles as set forth in Article IX, A, Section 1, and it is determined that a

rehabilitation is not feasible or fails, a minister's credentials are to be terminated by dismissal. The district shall forward to the General Council Credentials Committee the specific charges and its recommendation for dismissal. The district shall inform the minister involved of its action and, where applicable, the superintendent of the minister's district of affiliation.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 7, paragraph b (1), fourth sentence and Section 8, paragraph a.)

b. General Council Credentials Committee action. The General Council Credentials Committee shall consider the recommendation of the district and shall concur if in its judgment the district was justified in the action taken. If the General Council Credentials Committee does not concur, it may remand the case, together with its recommendations, back to the district for review and reconsideration. The district shall report the results of its reconsideration to the General Council Credentials Committee for final disposition.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 8, paragraph b.)

c. General Council to hold information. All pertinent information relating to the disciplinary action taken against a minister shall be preserved for future reference in the office of the General Council Credentials Committee.

(Note: New paragraph.)

d. Final disposition. The general secretary shall notify the minister and the district(s) involved of the final disposition of the case.

(Note: New paragraph.)

Section 10. Right of Appeal for a Trial

Thirty days from the date of the notification of the decision of the General Council Credentials Committee shall be allowed for an accused minister to request a trial. He shall be apprised officially of this right at the time of the decision of the General Council Credentials Committee. The appeal is to be sent to the office of the general superintendent, with copies sent to the superintendent of the minister's district of affiliation and any other districts involved. The procedure to follow in appeals for and the granting of a trial are outlined in Bylaws Article IX, B, Section 1.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 8, paragraph c.)

Section 11. Publication of Dismissal

No publication of a dismissed minister's name shall be made until the district has been advised by the office of the general secretary that such has been authorized by the General Council Credentials Committee. An additional 30 days from the date of the notification shall be given the dismissed minister to exercise his right of appeal.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 7, paragraph b, subparagraphs (1) and (4). Also embodies the 1987 General Council Resolution 35.)

Section 12. Reinstatement of Credentials

a. Authorization. Application for reinstatement may be made through the district council within which territory the applicant resides. The application shall be considered subject to the approval of the district in which the termination was made.

b. Minimal time-lapse for dismissed ministers. The minimal time-lapse required before a minister who has been dismissed is eligible for reinstatement shall be 1 year, except it shall be 2 years for a minister who has been dismissed because of charges as stated in Article IX, A, Section 3, paragraph a. The time-lapse shall be computed from the date of the district presbytery action as it appears on the ministerial status report filed with the General Council Credentials Committee. (See Bylaws Article VII, Section 10, for other renewals and reinstatements.)

c. Rehabilitation obligatory. When a minister has been dismissed from our Fellowship and applies for reinstatement, he shall comply with the procedures for rehabilitation outlined in Section 8, d, (2), of this article.

d. Option to refer to General Presbytery. The General Council Credentials Committee may also hold the reinstatement of a minister's credentials in abeyance until the next session of the General Presbytery in order that the General Presbytery may have the opportunity to review the case, in which event the matter of reinstatement of such minister may be left entirely with that body.

(Note: 1987 Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 10.)

e. Reinstatement fee. When applying for reinstatement the minister must include a \$50

reinstatement fee with his application which shall be divided equally between the district and General Councils.

(Note: New paragraph.)

Further be it

Resolved, That the general secretary be authorized to edit the entire text of the bylaws and in the interest of consistency and uniformity be empowered to change the term "Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, wherever it appears, to "General Council Credentials Committee."

Election of Assistant General Superintendent

Ballots were distributed for the election of assistant general superintendent.

Warren F. McPherson, chairman of the Tellers Committee, reported results for the nominating ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent as follows:

Votes cast	3,403
Needed to elect	2,268
Everett R. Stenhouse received	2,710

Having received well above the required number of votes, the chairman declared Everett R. Stenhouse reelected as assistant general superintendent.

Brother Stenhouse expressed his appreciation for the vote of confidence.

The following is a list of all other nominees: Jay Alford 1, Robert Ashcroft 1, Marcus Bakke 2, Almon Bartholomew 18, Wayne Benson 2, Joseph Beretta 2, Edward Berkey 1, Zenas Bicket 1, Philip Bongiorno 1, David Boykin 2, Robert Brandt 3, James Bridges 21, James Brown 1, Warren Bullock 3, John Bunney 1, Howard Burroughs 1, Rollin Carlson 1, Owen Carr 1, Fred Chilton 1, Ed Cole 1, Frank Cole 2, Glen Cole 109, Hugh Corey 2, Norm Correll 1, Fred Cottriel 1, Charles Crabtree 75, Robert Crabtree 1, John Crabtree 1, Charles Crank 21, Dennis Davis 1, Richard Dresselhaus 2, George Edgerly 3, Robert Fisher 1, David Flower 4, Joseph R. Flower 1, Richard Foth 1, J. Don George 1, Ken George 1, James Hamill 1, James Hennessy 2, Doug Hollis 1, Raymond Hudson 3, Gene Jackson 7, Cecil Janway 1, J. Foy Johnson 15, Murray Kelley 1, Sam Kern 1, R. S. King 1, Clarence Lambert 1, Vaudie Lambert 2, M. Lednický 5, David Lewis 1, Paul Lowenberg 2, Sam Mayo 2, J. D. Middlebrook 1, Ernest Moen 4, Armon Newburn 21, Robert Novak 1, John Palmer 1, Ray Rachels 2, Paul Radke 1, Stewart Robinson 1, John Palmer 1, Roy Sapp 1, Robert Schmidgall 290, Robert Sites 2, Robert Spence 1, Clarence St. John 1, Irvin Steiding 2, Norman Surratt 2, Thomas Trask 9, Loren Triplett 2, William Vickery 2, Philip Wannenmacher 2, Joe Wilmoth 2, George Wood 3, Ernest Zilch 1.

Report of Committee To Study the Credentialing Process As Called For by the 1987 General Council

Norman L. Surratt, chairman of the Committee To Study the Creden-

tialing Process as called for by Resolution 6 at the 1987 General Council, read the report as printed. A motion prevailed to accept the report as presented.

The report as presented follows:

The Committee To Study the Credentialing Process as called for by Resolution 6 at the General Council in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, reported its findings to the 1988 General Presbytery as provided in the resolution. The General Presbytery approved the report for presentation to the 1989 General Council.

Although the assignment stated that the committee was to "study the credentialing process as outlined in the bylaws and conducted by policy," it was the consensus of the committee members that we could best fulfill the purpose for which the committee was called by focusing upon the six specific items listed in the resolution.

The summary of our deliberation is as follows:

It is our understanding that the question of the authority of the Executive Presbytery in the credentialing process was verified and clarified at the specially called meeting of the General Presbytery in March 1988.

Because of the special cases of ministerial credentials, we were assured that the work load to the Executive Presbytery was not excessive. Ample time and appropriate review of each case is available and provided.

The question of expediting does not seem to be a valid question. The Executive Presbytery meets bimonthly (more often when necessary) and utilizes conference calls in emergencies. Therefore, unnecessary delays are rare if at all.

Cases which are complex and which may involve legal consideration are assigned to subcommittees by the Executive Presbytery. To create a "quasi-judicial hearing body" would seem to us to complicate rather than expedite the process. Article IV, Section 2, of our bylaws states that "The Executive Presbytery shall constitute the Credentials Committee. . . . It may delegate the routine work of the Credentials Committee to the Board of Administration." Credential questions may also be appealed to the General Presbytery.

Problems of conflict of interest seem to be isolated and very minimal. In situations where there might appear to be a conflict of interest, it is generally accepted policy and practice that the persons involved should disqualify themselves from the case.

The committee's research has found no apparent inequities in our present procedures. It does not appear to be wisdom to attempt to change procedures that are serving us well. Therefore, our conclusion and recommendation is that we continue to function under our present guidelines as given in our constitution and bylaws.

**Report of Committee To
Study Resolution 18, Qualifications for Ordination**

Norman L. Surratt, chairman of the Committee To Study Resolution 18, Qualifications for Ordination, presented the report as printed. A motion prevailed to adopt the report as presented.

The report as presented follows:

The 42nd General Council convening in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, deliberated for some time relative to Resolution 18. Qualifications for Ordination. The resolution was then referred to the same committee called for in Resolution 6.

From its consideration of the proposed resolution, the committee offers the following report and recommendation:

WHEREAS, Our biblical, historical, organizational, and governmental position in The General Council of the Assemblies of God through the years has been that preaching—the ministry of proclamation—is primary; and

WHEREAS, The Bible is replete with support for the Word-centered concept of ministry with special emphasis provided by Christ's own ministry, i.e., "The Spirit is upon me because he hath anointed me to preach" (Luke 4:18,19); His commission to His followers "preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15); and in sending His believers "to preach" (Mark 3:14); and

WHEREAS, Preaching is indigenous and indispensable to the church; and

WHEREAS, Other nonpreaching ministries are presently recognized through the issuance of a specialized license credential; and

WHEREAS, The terminology of our present bylaws requiring "full-time preaching ministry" for ordination appears to state our position clearly, and

WHEREAS, The proposed Resolution 18 would allow such a broad range of ministries to qualify for ordination that any full-time church worker could be eligible; and

WHEREAS, Ordaining nonpreaching workers would constitute a radical departure from our traditional view of an ordained minister, that such change would result in confusion and the blurring of the distinctive call, purpose, and function of being ordained into the ministry; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we recommend that the qualifications for ordination candidates to have a "proven full-time preaching ministry" as provided for in the General Council Bylaws Article VII, Section 3, paragraph c, subparagraph (3), (Page 122) remain unchanged.

**Report of Committee To Study
Major Medical Coverage Plan For
Ministers and Ministry-Related Employees**

The general treasurer presented the report of the committee to seek out a national major medical coverage plan for ministers and ministry-related employees. He stated that a plan that would encompass the entire Fellowship has not been found, but that a continuing effort is being made in this area.

He further commented on the proposal which was adopted by the General Presbytery this week relative to a proposal from the American Family Life Assurance Company for a cancer and hospital intensive care plan for ministers. He encouraged the delegates to seek information from the insurance booth concerning this new program.

A motion prevailed that the report be accepted. Brother Trask assured the delegates that the General Council has an ongoing investigative insurance committee that is functioning and is searching for what has been asked for.

The report as accepted follows:

The Insurance Office, at the request of the general treasurer, defined components of a national major medical coverage plan for ministers and ministry-related employees and submitted that information, along with statistical information about our ministers, to several insurance companies and to our corporate insurance broker. Some companies showed no interest, some showed interest but failed to submit proposals. Christian Fidelity and Ministers Life submitted proposals. These proposals were ranked, and the Ministers Life proposal was recommended to the June 7-9, 1988, Executive Presbytery meeting. Their action follows:

"Warren Smith, consultant with regard to a health insurance program, met with the Executive Presbytery to make a recommendation pertaining thereto. Clyde Hawkins was also present.

"A motion prevailed to approve the adoption in principle of the proposal for a self-funded health insurance plan from Warren Smith, and that we ask him to make a presentation of the program to the General Presbytery."

Mr. Smith's plan was submitted to the August 16, 1988, General Presbytery meeting. There was a general consensus, because of the many failures of self-funded health insurance plans, that this plan would not be feasible.

Election of General Secretary

Ballots were distributed for the election of general secretary.

Warren McPherson gave the following report of the nominating ballot for general secretary:

Ballots cast	2,753
Needed to elect	1,836
Joseph R. Flower	2,537

Since Joseph R. Flower received in excess of the two-thirds vote, the chairman declared Joseph R. Flower reelected as general secretary.

Brother Flower expressed his appreciation for the vote of confidence.

The following is a list of all other nominees: Jay Alford 1, Donald Annas 1, Ron Barefield 1, Almon Bartholomew 25, Wayne Benson 2, James Bridges 8, David Burnell 1, Leonard Campbell 1, Frank Cole 1, Glen Cole 19, Hugh Corey 1, Charles Crabtree 8, Robert Crabtree 5, Charles Crank 18, Dennis Davis 1, George Edgerly 1, Douglas Fulenwider 1, Don George 2, Douglas Gugudan 1, David Harrison 1, Phil Hogan 1, Rick Howard 1, Raymond Hudson 1, Ray Hudson 1, Gene Jackson 5, J. Foy Johnson 3, Charles Kelly 1, Murray Kelly 1, Elmer Kirschman 1, Clarence Lambert 2, D. Fred Leader 1, Paul Lowenberg 2, Donald McManus 4, Derald Musgrove 2, L. J. Moore 1, Armon Newburn 3, Robert Novak 1, Leonard Nipper 1, Burton Pierce 1, Don Richardson 2, Robert Schmidgall 17, Ted Schultz 1, Robert Spence 1, Ed Spinola 1, Norman Surratt 1, Thomas Trask 14, Loren Triplett 1, William Vickery 28, George Wood 16, Gary Wiggins 1, Jack Wright 1.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:50 p.m. R. D. E. Smith, former executive presbyter, closed in prayer.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE—AUGUST 9

The Wednesday evening service was under the direction of Robert Crabtree, superintendent of the Ohio District. Bert Webb, former assistant general superintendent, gave the Scripture reading from Hebrews 12:7-17. Prayer was offered by James E. Hamill, executive presbyter from the Gulf Area. The congregational singing was led by Paul Ferrin. Steve Wilson, director of Gospel Courier Ministries, Lexington, Kentucky, and David Koch, minister of music, Evangel Assembly of God, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, served at the piano and organ, respectively. The offering appeal was made by Charles Hackett, pastor of First Assembly of God, Lafayette, Indiana. The offertory and special music for the service were provided by the Indianapolis area combined choir, directed by Eddie Hawks.

Dr. Billy Melvin, executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals, brought greetings to the General Council. G. Raymond Carlson, assisted by Author Edith Blumhofer, presented to Thomas F. Zimmerman a specially packaged two-volume set of *The Assemblies of God: A Chapter in the Story of American Pentecostalism*, written by Dr. Edith Blumhofer, which had been prepared for the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Prior to the message for the evening, G. Raymond Carlson presented the General Superintendent's Medal of Honor citation to Michael Cardone. Sr. Mr. Cardone is founder and chairman of the board of M. Cardone

Industries, the world's largest remanufacturer of automotive parts, located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Bobby Wilson, pastor of Praise Assembly of God, Pueblo, Colorado, was the speaker for the service which had the theme of holiness in the life of the believer. Holiness for the heart, the home, and the house of God was the focus of his message. Christ's Sermon on the Mount and its theme of righteousness provided the text: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33).

THURSDAY MORNING—AUGUST 10

A time of prayer and praise began at 9:15 on Thursday morning. J. Robert Ashcroft led the singing and prayer time. Musicians were Tom Matrone, minister of music, Bloomington Assembly of God, Bloomington, Minnesota, and Dixie Hackett, pastor's wife, First Assembly of God, Lafayette, Indiana. Songs sung during worship included: "This Is the Day That the Lord Hath Made," "Oh Lord, Send the Power Just Now," "Revive Us Again," "We Are One in the Bonds of Love," "Bind Us Together," and "Amen, Amen."

Brother Carlson announced that Mrs. Ralph Riggs, wife of former General Superintendent Ralph Riggs, had passed away this morning. The audience stood in silent memory of Mrs. Riggs. Bert Webb was asked to pray for the family.

The offering appeal was made by Irvin Steiding, superintendent of the Appalachian District. Randy Wright of the Music Department at Headquarters presented a piano solo for the offertory.

Business Session

The chairman called the business session to order at 10 a.m. He requested the members of the Committee To Study the Division of Christian Education and the Resolutions Committee to be seated on the platform.

Roster Committee Report

E. E. Kirschman, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report of the Roster Committee as of 10 a.m. Thursday, August 10:

Ordained ministers	4,681
Delegates	1,319
Voting constituency	6,000
Licensed ministers	653
Visitors	8,952
Nonvoting constituency	9,605
Total registration	15,605

A motion prevailed to receive this progress report.

Election of General Treasurer

The general secretary read the provision in the General Council Bylaws for the election of general treasurer. The chairman indicated that this is the first time that we are casting this type of ballot according to the resolution adopted at the 1987 General Council which made provision for the General Presbytery to serve as the nominating committee with the provision that the names of all persons receiving 15 or more votes be submitted as nominees.

Brother Flower was asked to present the nominees for office of general treasurer. He read the name of Thomas E. Trask and indicated that he was the only one to receive 15 or more votes by the General Presbytery.

The chairman asked Brother Flower to lead in prayer for all the elections of the day.

Following a time of discussion the first elective ballot for the office of general treasurer was cast.

Warren McPherson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for general treasurer:

Ballots cast	2,404
Needed to elect	1,602
Thomas T. Trask	2,381

The chairman, noting that Thomas E. Trask received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected as general treasurer.

Remarks from Thomas E. Trask

Brother Carlson called on Thomas E. Trask to make any comment he wished. Brother Trask expressed thanks for his election. He stated that 9 months ago he received the invitation from the Executive Presbytery to serve as general treasurer. After prayer, he accepted the invitation, feeling it was the will of God. "I accept your vote of confidence this morning as your expression. We shall continue to serve the Lord and His Church in this capacity. I have a strong conviction particularly when it comes to finances. First of all, I believe that every believer should be a tither and a giver. Secondly, when one is charged with responsibility of handling God's money, I believe that good stewardship, careful stewardship, and wise stewardship should be exercised. I pledge to you this in the days to come."

Committee Report on the Division of Christian Education

D. V. Hurst, chairman of the Committee To Study the Division of Christian Education, expressed appreciation to the committee which has worked with him and their dedication of intelligent, careful study and analysis. He indicated that David Bundrick had served as secretary for the committee at their request and has not served as a member of the committee per se.

Brother Hurst highlighted various areas in the report booklet, including going over the original assignment.

Robert Cooley, a member of the committee, stated that early in the work of the committee, considerable attention was given to the nature and role of education within our Fellowship.

Election of Executive Director of the Division of Foreign Missions

Brother Carlson stated that J. Philip Hogan has chosen to step aside from this office after having served 30 years. For 62 years two men have led the Division of Foreign Missions—Noel Perkin and J. Philip Hogan. We come now to the place where we must choose a successor to Brother Hogan. Brother Flower was asked to read the provision in the bylaws for the nomination and election of the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions.

The general secretary reported that the nominees being presented by the General Presbytery are Norman L. Correll and Loren O. Triplett.

Ballots were cast for the office of executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions.

It was asked if this Council would be given an opportunity to in some way express appreciation to Brother Hogan for his many years of service.

The chairman asked Brother Stenhouse for a statement relative to this matter. Brother Stenhouse stated that Brother Hogan is deeply loved and greatly appreciated. There will be action taken by the Executive Presbytery for proper farewells and expressions of appreciation. This is already being planned. It has already been done by the Division of Foreign Missions in grand style. We are not overlooking that. We love J. Philip Hogan very much and we intend to say it several times before he leaves. There was a standing ovation for J. Philip Hogan.

Brother Carlson asked Brother Hogan to say what was on his heart.

Brother Hogan stated that he and his wife had prayed for some months that he should voluntarily, and certainly under no pressure, relinquish the reins of this vast division and to allow it to proceed and progress under the leadership of younger and better leadership. He stated, "I do not have words to express the gratitude that I feel to this movement. No tenure ever received more support and more encouragement than I have received in these past 30 years. I am particularly grateful that in a few months we will be distributing for you \$100 million a year. At present, our income is almost \$2 million a week. I am exceedingly grateful that at no time, both during the 32-year tenure of my predecessor and these 30 years of my own tenure, has there ever been a moment when any committee ever investigated the handling of these finances. I am especially grateful to leave this office with the foundation laid that all the funds, and they will grow, that have been given to us, will be particularly safeguarded.

People ask me what I am going to do. I am going to do what I have

always done. I was appointed as a missionary in 1945. I never wanted to be anything else. When I walk out of this office the first day of January 1990, I will still be a foreign missionary. I hope that now, with the burden of day-to-day administration off of me, that I will be allowed to spend more time in study of the Bible and in prayer."

Brother Carlson stated that the Resolutions Committee will have a properly worded expression of thanks for this body to act upon in behalf of Brother Hogan.

Warren McPherson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions:

Ballots cast	3,175
Needed to elect	2,116
Norman L. Correll	622
Loren O. Triplett	2,553

The chairman, noting that Loren O. Triplett received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected as executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions.

Remarks from Loren O. Triplett

Brother Carlson asked Brother Triplett to come to the platform and make any comments he wished.

Brother Triplett stated that he had no choice but to accept the body's decision. "How do you say no to the Lord? I have prayed a long time about this and accept humbly the responsibilities that I do not even understand yet. Your decision places me before a very awesome responsibility. I can only tremble in sincere recognition of my severe limitations. Please allow me to express my love and appreciation to J. Philip Hogan. J. Philip Hogan is a tall standing general in the army of the Lord.

"To the missionaries who are here and who are not here, I pledge to seek to guide you with an open door as best as I can. I pledge to pray that God will make you humble servants of Jesus Christ. The Division of Foreign Missions does not have an address at 1445 Boonville; we are located wherever you are. I hope you will take upon yourselves the responsibility of the kind of credentials that make you powerful, not for money but for ministry and for the anointing of the Almighty. We live in a global village; the mandate is upon us; we have pledged ourselves to reach millions for Jesus in this day; and I am praying that God will unite us in our dreams, unite us in our sense of call, unite us in our sense of destiny, to intercession and witness in a sincere effort to help bring the King back. Please pray for me."

Brother Carlson extended his personal congratulations and asked Brother Hogan to pray as the presbyters gathered around Brother Triplett for prayer.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 12 noon to reconvene at 2 p.m.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON—August 10

The afternoon session was opened by Paul Ferrin leading in singing, "I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord Forever," and "I Will Enter His Gates." Barbara Hardcastle, Fair Oaks, California, served at the organ and David Weston, minister of music at Park Crest Assembly of God, Springfield, Missouri, was at the piano.

Business Session

The business session was called to order at 2:20 p.m. Silas Gaither, national director of the Division of Church Ministries, was asked to pray for the afternoon session.

Roster Report

D. Fred Leader gave the Roster Committee report as of 2 p.m., as follows:

Ordained	4,721	
Delegates	<u>1,330</u>	
Voting constituency		6,051
Licensed	671	
Visitors	<u>11,631</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>12,302</u>
Total registration		18,353

A motion prevailed to accept the report of the Roster Committee as of 2 p.m.

Election of Nonresident Executive Presbyters

A packet of all eight ballots for the election of the nonresident executive presbyters was distributed. The general secretary read from bylaws Article II, Section 2.e., relative to the election of nonresident executive presbyters. Instructions were given on the marking of the ballots. Gene Jackson, superintendent of the Tennessee District, prayed for God's guidance in the election process.

It was noted that the Southern Idaho District's executive committee has requested that their nominees be withdrawn due to their failure to follow proper procedure in selecting them. The names of Duane E. Buhler and C. Linfield Crowder were removed from the Northwest Area ballot.

Presentation of Awards

The general treasurer made a presentation of awards to a number of pastors whose churches had sent \$2,500 or more as a pre-Council offering

for the expenses of this General Council. He expressed appreciation for each church which has made contributions.

Committee Report on the Division of Christian Education, continued

D. V. Hurst resumed his report which was heard in part before the noon recess. Brother Hurst continued his presentation, beginning on page 15 to the end of the report, noting that enabling resolutions will be presented by the chairman of the Resolutions Committee.

The Committee Report on the Division of Christian Education is as follows:

Foreword

When the Assemblies of God came together in Hot Springs in 1914, one of the key reasons for the initial call was the training and credentialing of ministers. The concern was for the establishment of a "general Bible training school with a literary department for our people" (*Word and Witness*, December 1913). Many of our founding and early church fathers were well-educated, and especially so for their day. Through the years, the Bible institute and Bible college have been strategic to the growth and development of the Movement. They continue to serve a most strategic role in our Fellowship. More recently, our college of arts and sciences and now our seminary and Berean College likewise have served and continue to serve in a most strategic way in meeting the educational needs of the Fellowship.

The higher education system of our church has developed through the years as, in various ways, needs were met one at a time by various segments of the church—national, regional, district, and local.

The Assemblies of God is pro-education, pro-learning, and pro-development of understanding. It is erroneous to conclude that the Fellowship is anti-education. Both from the biblical point of view, which we espouse, and from the historical record, it can be deduced that the Fellowship believes in education. Though we have not financially supported it domestically as well as on the foreign mission field, we have demonstrated our belief on a worldwide scale that the Bible institute, college, and graduate school are important to church planting and growth. Domestically, we support our seminary, 11 colleges, and 6 institutes endorsed by the Board of Education, plus another 3 approved by the Division of Home Missions, and more than 1,000 Christian day schools. Abroad, we support 329 Bible institutes and schools, 9 advanced schools of theology, a vast International Correspondence Institute network, and many other educational and training activities. Research shows that 40.32 percent of our foreign missionary time is spent on the field in this kind of educational service (1982 figures). Of the total foreign missionary time—overseas and home deputational, 14.20 percent is spent in education and training, plus another 3.27 percent in the work of International Correspondence Institute (1987 figures). So, it can be shown clearly that we as a church believe in and support education.

Now we are faced with major concerns and problems as well as opportunities for preservation and enhancement in the domestic educational work of the Assemblies of God.

I. There are broad national concerns that affect higher education in general and the Assemblies of God in particular. These include:

1. Rising costs exceeding the inflation rate;
2. A corresponding reduction in federal aid to students, both in dollar volume per student in ratio to the costs of education and in eligibility in ratio to family income.

II. Closer to our Fellowship lie other deep and long-range concerns. These include:

1. The lack of growth of the Assemblies of God, especially in the areas of traditional sources of students (nonethnic) for our colleges (it is noted that our Sunday school attendance declined for four consecutive years, 1984-87);

2. The sharply lower level of support for domestic higher education as compared to that of most fellowships. While this is true, it is generally expected from our Fellowship to

conduct the same kinds of education programs for our young people as do many other denominations;

3. The specter raised by secular humanism, materialism, evolution, and atheism as presented pervasively throughout the public school and university system. Evangelicals who work with Christian students on the secular campuses report the danger that as young people attend those institutions, they less frequently attend church anywhere.

The need for a strong higher education system and support for it in the Fellowship is clearly evident.

In the November 4, 1988, issue of *Christianity Today*, the following statement was made in reference to the integration of truth:

"For the past 30 years, 'integration' has been the central concern of college education in general, and of the private liberal arts colleges in particular. In that context, many have lamented the increasing fragmentation, perhaps better termed 'disintegration,' of academic disciplines in the larger universities. At the same time, however, Christian colleges have claimed (rightly) that they possess the integrating principles of knowledge: the revelation of God in Scripture. In most evangelical Christian colleges, biblical studies have provided, and will continue to provide, the foundation of our study of God's revelation to man. However, the natural and social sciences, as well as the arts and humanities, will assume an increasing role. If, as philosopher Arthur Holmes puts it, 'all truth is God's truth,' we are faced then with resolving the important question of how 'truth,' determined in the context of general revelation, relates to the 'truth' determined in biblical studies. In more general and more theological terms: What is the relationship between general and special revelation?"

This is the question that must be addressed constantly in all of our colleges and all of their classrooms. Truth—divine truth—must be evident and applied at every point.

III. Certain immediate concerns face higher education in our Fellowship. These include:

1. The debt level of our colleges;
2. The failure to operate "in the black," and that in serious proportions, on the part of some of our schools;
3. The need for aggressive student recruitment, fund-raising, and other higher education initiatives from the national and district levels for our schools;
4. The relationship of the national General Council schools to each other and to the whole of higher education in the Assemblies of God; and
5. The roles of the national Division of Christian Education and the Board of Education (as related to it), and the role of the national director. Included in this are the areas of assignment to the Division of Christian Education and the administrative placement of the Church School Literature and Sunday School departments.

Trends in the Assemblies of God, in particular, wherein some schools have regularly run deficits and seem to be threatened every year, are alarming.

Clearly, it is time for concerted action regarding higher education in the Assemblies of God—not just more survey, discussion, and reports. The Division of Christian Education Study Committee firmly believes this and senses that the Executive Presbytery did as well when it brought the Committee into being and outlined its assignment.

There are many concerns facing higher education in the Assemblies of God today, but our strong desire regarding the entire educational system of our Fellowship is to do all possible to reach the goals of the Decade of Harvest and strengthen the evangelism, church growth thrust, and Christian life and ministry development of our church. Our educational system will and must play a large role in meeting these goals and objectives.

It is out of these concerns and this strong desire that the Division of Christian Education Study Committee gave itself to the task assigned and prayerfully presents this report to the General Council. It sees itself as having begun a rather broad and meaningful discussion regarding education in our church. It now entrusts the General Council in session to deliberate carefully and thoughtfully concerning this report.

Section I. Assignment

The original assignment to the Committee to Study the Division of Christian Education (DCE) was broad. It was clarified by the general superintendent in the Committee's first meetings. Several

referrals and additional requests were given which, in effect, added to the assignment. Following are the original assignment and the additions:

I. Original assignment:

On March 25, 1987, the Executive Presbytery adopted a motion that the following committee be appointed to "study the Christian Education Division and related areas and bring back a report to the June meeting of the Executive Presbytery." Appointed were D. V. Hurst (chairman), Don Argue, Charles Pace, Robert L. Brandt, Everett Stenhouse, and Robert Cooley. M. Wayne Benson was added later.

II. Additional requests or referrals:

- A. In the initial meeting of the Committee (June 1987), a conference was held with the general superintendent. The assignment was clarified and amplified to:
 1. Study the national Division of Christian Education, Church School Literature, Sunday School Department, and the Assemblies of God schools;
 2. Look at the Division of Christian Education and other related issues as they unfold;
 3. Seek a solution to the long-standing problem of the relationships of the General Council schools to regional schools;
 4. Look at the four Springfield schools with the idea of bringing them together into a university;
 5. Observe that it is not outside the Committee's scope to consider means of achieving greater coordination of the entire higher education program; and
 6. Set a series of goals that could be implemented in future meetings.
- B. In August 1987, the General Council adopted the following resolution sponsored by the Executive Presbytery:

Resolution

Whereas, the condition of higher education in the Assemblies of God generally is cause for serious concern and the financial needs of certain schools are of almost desperate character, and

Whereas, the structure of the Division of Christian Education is under discussion and the areas of responsibility and service within it may need change, requiring bylaw changes, and

Whereas, the Executive Presbytery has taken cognizance of these needs and appointed a study committee and given it the assignment to "study the Division of Christian Education and related areas" and report to it, and

Whereas, this study is already under way and the Executive Presbytery has received its first report and will shortly receive a second report, but that the General Presbytery and General Council, itself, should have the benefit of receiving the full and final report and may be called on to consider some structural changes including Bylaw authorizations,

Therefore, be it resolved that the General Council requests the Committee, appointed by the Executive Presbytery and working under its direction, to report to the General Presbytery one year hence, submitting a "draft" report and securing response to its tentative proposals from the General Presbytery, and submit its final report to the General Presbytery and the General Council two years hence, including any recommended enabling legislation necessary to implement its recommendations.

Sponsor: The Executive Presbytery

- C. In the August 12-13, 1987, meeting:
 1. The general superintendent requested further communication from the Committee regarding a chief fiscal officer for Evangel College.
- D. In the November 17-19, 1987, meeting:
 1. A request from North Central Bible College Board of Regents regarding a financial plan for Assemblies of God colleges was received as a referral from the Board of Education.
 2. The Committee was asked to relate this work to the Decade of Harvest report, especially as it relates to the Bible institutes proposal.
- E. In the November 1987 meeting with the Executive Presbytery, the chairman of the Committee identified the understanding that it broadly understood its assignments to be:
 1. Examine the Division of Christian Education's structure;
 2. Examine the Springfield schools;
 3. Examine higher education in the Assemblies of God; and

4. Write enabling resolutions for submission to the Executive Presbytery regarding Division of Education structure.

F. In the February 22-23, 1988, meeting:

1. The general superintendent requested the Committee to discuss *Paraclete* as a part of its ongoing study.
- G. The report of the Committee to Study Assemblies of God Colleges Relative to Purposes and Fulfillment was referred to the Committee (by the Executive Presbytery on July 29, 1987, with the request that it be included in their study).

III. Committee Response to Assignment

The Committee accepted its assignment prayerfully, with gravity, and with the understanding, as often stated by our general superintendent, that its work was most meaningful. As the assignment grew, the Committee realized it had an awesome task before it. The assignment was first given by the Executive Presbytery to the Committee and then, in turn, given by the General Council resolution to the Committee, the Executive Presbytery, and the General Presbytery. Hence the Committee has reported to the Executive Presbytery and has met with it. The Committee has also submitted a draft report to the General Presbytery to solicit comment, input, and guidance. The Committee prayed as it moved along and saw itself as working its way through the assignment together with the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

Section II. Committee Preamble of Affirmation

1. The Committee fully and wholeheartedly subscribes to the reason for being of the Assemblies of God, i.e., ministry to the Lord, ministry to the saints, ministry to the world.
2. The Committee believes that ministry to the world is essentially singular in terms of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19,20). Jesus said, "Having gone", make disciples of all nations, baptizing them . . . teaching them The imperative is "make disciples." This involves going across all boundaries, baptizing and teaching. To this must be added the charge, "Preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15 KJV). It can be deduced that the ministry of the Church to the world is to make disciples and this essentially involves preaching, baptizing, and teaching. It can be deduced further that the twofold means of fulfilling the imperative is evangelism and education. This imperative and its essentials have deep implications for our church and for our current study.
*Note: "having gone" involves cutting across all boundaries: geographic, social, cultural, economic, racial, and ethnic.
3. The Committee believes that anything that is done in continuing education, in ministerial development, and in higher education in our Fellowship must be supportive of and a means to implementing the stated purposes of the Assemblies of God.
4. The Committee believes the goals of the Decade of Harvest must be pursued vigorously. Whatever we do by way of improving the work of higher education in our Fellowship should be with a view to strengthening the efforts of our church as it fulfills its mission, works toward the goals of the Decade of Harvest, and seeks to be an even more vibrant and growing church in the next century, should Jesus tarry.
5. The Committee believes the educational system of the church must be responsible to it, while also participating with it in praying and thinking its way through as it establishes goals and develops means of reaching them. Then the educational system must serve the church as it seeks to fulfill its considered purposes.
6. The Committee sees the statement of purpose for education in our church (or any one of our educational institutions) as terribly vital. This was stated emphatically and in many ways by the Committee to Study Assemblies of God Colleges Relative to Purposes and Fulfillment, chaired by M. Wayne Benson. A purpose statement must be rooted deeply in the biblical mandate affecting education in the church, clearly and pointedly set forth and ardently adhered to. It must (1) be thoroughly understood and supported, (2) receive constant attention, and (3) become a discipliner of decisions affecting institutional functioning and development. Furthermore, those charged with implementing the educational mission of the church must be held accountable by the church authorities to adhere to stated purposes. To achieve this, it is mandatory that vigilance and pointed evaluation be maintained by all boards of control, all district presbyteries, the General Council, the Executive Presbytery, and the General Presbytery, as well as the administrative bodies of institutions, the alumni, and all others concerned. Also, any educational planning group must exercise its greatest skill and manifest its most ardent love for the preservation and fulfillment of the mission of the church at this point.

(Historically, educational mission erosion has occurred when stated purposes were permitted to erode, to go unfulfilled without such unfulfillment being "challenged," to change without due consideration, or just to be ignored.)

7. The Committee affirms that the original mission of our colleges must be retained and enhanced as we develop. The mission of ministerial education of Central Bible College and of our other Bible colleges and institutes and the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, the mission of Evangel College, and the mission of Berean College (which is to keep education within the reach of all who desire it) must all be retained and fulfilled through continuing all levels and types of education and training; i.e., diploma and certificate programs, both residential and correspondence education, undergraduate ministerial development and degrees, and graduate programs. In doing all of this, however, the church must fulfill its responsibility of education as efficiently and effectively as possible.
8. The Committee affirms that the Master Plan for Assemblies of God Postsecondary Education, adopted in 1983, is "in force" and the stated recommendations regarding the kind of product desired from our institutions are to be taken as guidance. They are as follows:
 - "(1) . . . whether preparing ministerial or nonministerial personnel, our educational goal should focus on developing the whole man: physically, intellectually, socially, and spiritually (Luke 2:52).¹
 - (2) . . . the mission of postsecondary education in the Assemblies of God should have as its first priority the training of ministers.²
 - (3) . . . other educational and training efforts (should) be limited to careers in church-related human service fields.³"

NOTE: The footnotes refer to the commentary which was a part of the Master Plan when it was developed and approved. The current Committee believes point #3 may need clarification and amplification regarding "life ministry and training" and proposes to give attention to this in its further study and in its recommendations. Comment is included in the Unified Statement of Purpose, Appendix II.
9. The Committee recognizes that we cannot place a "premium on ignorance" and that we must continually improve our educational system and service to the church. However, we must do all we can at every level of the church and in every educational development to insure against the pitfalls into which other revival movements have fallen as evangelism waned and education (of those already won) gained in ascendancy.
10. The Committee affirms that it has desired to achieve consensus along the way as it fulfilled its assignment. There must be that sense, it "seems good to us and to the Holy Ghost," as we cautiously move forward in the development of our higher education system and structure.
11. The Committee and the Executive Presbytery affirm there needs to be a revival of the evangelism concept: "Reach, win, teach, train and send." Both bodies want this affirmation to stand out in all deliberations.

Section III. Committee Procedure

Early in its deliberations, the Committee decided it would confine its fact and opinion finding to interviews (either directly or by delegation) with key people, interaction with its own membership, and research of historical documents pertinent to the assignment. It rejected the possibility of general surveys as perhaps unnecessary and time consuming and with the understanding this was done at significant cost by the Master Plan for A/G Postsecondary Education Committee, which plan was approved in 1983. The Master Plan and its research material was available to this Committee. The Committee subsequently surveyed the General Presbytery following the August 1988 meeting. This survey pertained to the Springfield schools in particular. The Committee has developed a rich resource of background information (including even a memo from the 1940s, at the time of Marcus Grable's service in Church School Literature and Sunday School, about uniting those two departments).

Individuals interviewed at length included the presidents of the four colleges in Springfield, the immediate past general superintendent, the former national director of the Division of Christian Education; the secretaries of the departments of Church School Literature, Sunday School, and Education; the present general superintendent (at length); the assistant general superintendent; the national director of the Division of Publication; the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, and others. Subsequently, there was a half-day exploratory meeting with a small committee and the four Springfield school presidents. Correspondence was received from several,

some unsolicited. Interviews were conducted as delegated with heads of education in other denominations such as the Church of the Nazarene, the Southern Baptist Convention, and the Church of God (Cleveland).

In many of the interviews, key questions were asked, such as: "How would you ideally structure the Division of Education?" "If you could structure higher education in the Assemblies of God ideally, how would you do it?" "Given present realities, how do you feel we could best structure the Assemblies of God higher education system?" And there were many others.

The Committee spent much time reviewing the report of the Committee to Study Assemblies of God Colleges Relative to Purposes and Fulfillment, chaired by M. Wayne Benson, and interacted with him concerning it. His service as a result of that committee's work was invaluable to this Committee. Also, the Committee studied extensively the Evangel College situation from many viewpoints (including financial) and read reports concerning it.

As requested, throughout its deliberations, the Committee planned to:

- 1) set forth a series of goals based on needs (at first tentatively);
- 2) set forth strategies to accomplish these goals;
- 3) offer certain key recommendations as quickly as possible;
- 4) suggest a resolution which could go to the General Council in session in Oklahoma City which would alert the Council, secure its authorization for continued study, and prepare the way for its subsequent consideration of significant action (including proposed Bylaw changes if any were needed);
- 5) reserve the option of offering other observations and recommendations or suggestions later as the deliberations unfold; and
- 6) possibly request the privilege of outside consultation, especially on the projected future of higher education in America.

We have followed that course of action.

The Committee as a whole has had ten major meetings. There have been several subcommittee meetings. It has reported to the Executive Presbytery six times and met with it five times. The times with the Executive Presbytery in which the assignment, goals, and strategies were reviewed in depth have totalled close to two full working days. The Committee has expressed profound appreciation to the Executive Presbytery for these opportunities to meet with them, occurring sometimes when the body was experiencing extreme pressures.

The Committee submitted an extensive draft report to the General Presbytery in August 1988. Close to an entire working day of that body was spent in discussing the report. Subsequently, the Committee studied the transcript of the discussion line for line, responded in writing to salient concerns raised at that time, and submitted a survey by mail to the General Presbytery to further seek guidance for the development of this report.

Between meetings, much research and individual Committee member work has been done.

Section IV. Needs Identified

During the long interview, study, and deliberation process, many strongly felt needs came to the forefront. The goals presented and strategies developed are an effort to meet these needs. Needs were identified such as:

1. The need to improve the effectiveness of the Board of Education as it coordinates and insures the integrity of our education system;
2. The need now to upgrade the level of service and visibility of the director of the Division of Christian Education;
3. The need to do all possible to guard against erosion in the education system of the church and assure adherence to purposes and fulfillment of them;
4. The need to place the Sunday School and Church School Literature departments under one divisional directorship for purposes of coordination and more effective, broadened service to the church;
5. The need to improve the effectiveness of the decision-making process within Evangel College, itself, and its responsiveness to and coordination with the Executive Presbytery;
6. The need to bring the schools in Springfield together under one board of directors and administration and build a central education system that is coordinated, is academically and economically efficient, and is designed to serve the needs of the Fellowship going into the twenty-first century;
7. The need for greater cooperation, coordination, emphasis, financial support, efficiency (eco-

- nomically and academically), elimination of weakening proliferation, preservation, enrichment, responsiveness, and clear statements of the adherence to original purposes regarding all of our educational institutions;
8. The need to study projections regarding our educational system as it is affected by demographic, technological, and other changes in America and the world, in an effort to be prepared; ("change" and "education is in trouble" are themes heard and read daily in the press);
 9. The need to work as a church in a greatly enhanced and unified way toward the goals of the Decade of Harvest, tying in the churches with the colleges and institutes in their influence of young people toward ministry and preparation for it;
 10. The need for a clearly stated and comprehensive Pentecostal theology of ministry for our Fellowship as a basis for our entire education and training effort in the preparation of our constituency for ministry;
 11. The need to address the existing and ongoing enrollment problem as it appears in demographic studies;
 12. The need to be clear on what we expect of credentialed ministers by way of preparation and training;
 13. The need to improve the effectiveness of *Paraclete* and broaden its scope; and
 14. The need to strengthen the effectiveness of the Division of Church Ministries as it responds to the needs of the Fellowship. (This came as a part of discussion regarding the Sunday School Department and the Church School Literature Department.)

Section V. Executive and General Presbyteries' Actions

As noted, the Committee has interacted extensively with the Executive Presbytery and responded to a wide range of questions. (The Committee primarily is a creature of the Executive Presbytery.) The Committee discussions with the Executive Presbytery have been both philosophical and technical (practical). The Executive and General Presbyteries' input has been invaluable. There has been action to caution, tentatively to approve, to adopt, to approve and refer or to assign, and to recommend or not recommend as it reviewed various parts of the reports. These actions are noted subsequently along with the statement of goals later in this report. The Committee feels a good degree of consensus has been reached.

Section VI. Statement of Goals and Actions

Early in its work and as requested, the Committee selected as its best procedure the development of a series of goals which would address the needs identified. As guidance was given and consensus achieved, a series of detailed strategies was developed to aid in working toward the achievement of the goals. These goals are "steps" towards accomplishment of the objectives of maintenance and enrichment of the ministry of education in the Assemblies of God; they are not ends in themselves. They do, however, constitute a most significant part of the Committee report.

Following is the statement of goals and the actions taken as well as brief comments about some of them. Others are treated in detail in this report. (The goals are in bold print.)

- A. The Nature, Structure, and Development of Higher Education in the Assemblies of God.
 1. Determine the ideal number and location of higher education institutions in the Assemblies of God (as implied in current bylaw) and work toward the establishment, preservation, and enhancement of their service to the church.
 2. Encourage the Executive Presbytery to exercise leadership in higher education based on the future needs of the church (through monitoring the educational system's effectiveness and exercising initiative in its development, including both structure and support).
 3. Develop an educational system with integrity at all levels; i.e., creditable and certifiable.
 4. Work toward unifying, coordinating, and eliminating unnecessary duplication in the higher education system of the Assemblies of God which would involve adherence by all endorsed institutions (institutes, colleges, universities, and seminaries) to academic, capital funding, and policy guidelines developed by the Board of Education, Executive Presbytery, and General Presbytery.
 5. Develop and enhance the meaning and value of endorsement.
 6. Identify and adopt a comprehensive and equitable (student income vs. other income ratio) funding program for endorsed higher education in the Assemblies of God; i.e., 60% of budget being student-generated income, 20% other income.

7. Work toward a realistic evaluation of the financial health of our entire higher education system, basing it on commonly accepted norms.
8. Formulate projections with the aid of the best educational consultant we can secure to try to determine future economic, demographic, academic, and globalization trends in education; and, evaluate these trends and their implications for education and missions, and what bearing this may have on the Decade of Harvest.

ACTION: The above goals (1-8) have been approved by the Executive Presbytery and referred to the Board of Education as guidelines for its ongoing work.

9. Articulate and affirm a recommended statement of the nature and purpose for all higher education in the Assemblies of God, based on the Report of the Committee to Study A/G Colleges Relative to Purpose and Fulfillment.

ACTION: This goal, together with an amplified and edited model statement of purpose, has been referred by the Executive Presbytery to the boards of directors of the national schools and the Board of Education for relay to the regional schools. It is anticipated this will be a part of the endorsement criteria. (See Appendix II for model statement.)

10. Realizing the call to ministry is born in a revival atmosphere and often occurs at local church, youth camp, and convention altars, work toward a greater emphasis on the call to ministry among our young people (especially high school juniors and seniors). This should be done through the national and district youth departments and in providing materials which will assist leaders in local churches, youth camps, and youth conventions in "Cultivating the Call."

ACTION AND COMMENT:

This goal and a strategy to achieve it were particularly exciting to the Committee. Here is where a great share of the 20,000 new ministers for the Decade of Harvest will be generated. They will first "hear the call" at the local church, youth camp, and convention altars. This goal and strategy have been adopted by the Executive Presbytery. They have assigned it to the national Youth Department for full implementation as a part of the Decade of Harvest emphasis. (This can be found in Appendix III.)

11. To restudy the three basic statements of philosophy as contained in the Master Plan for Assemblies of God Postsecondary Education. These statements have to do with "product" and are:

1. "It is recommended that whether preparing ministerial or nonministerial personnel, our educational goals should focus on developing the whole man: physically, intellectually, socially, and spiritually (Luke 2:52).¹
2. "It is recommended that the mission of postsecondary education in the Assemblies of God should have as its first priority the training of ministers.²
3. "It is recommended that other educational and training efforts be limited to careers in church-related human service fields."³

ACTION: The Executive Presbytery has approved this goal and has referred it to the Board of Education.

B. Education and Qualifications for Ministry

1. Develop a Theology of Ministry as the foundation for the Assemblies of God higher education program and structure, and set forth the implications of this theology as they pertain to the preparation of full-time ministers.

ACTION: This goal and a strategy for its achievement have been approved. An exegete, together with a resource committee of two to work with him, has been assigned to draft the statement. It will be given to the Executive Presbytery for review when finished. (The materials gathered by the DCE Study Committee were relayed with the assignment.)

2. Resolve the stance of the General Council toward higher education regarding credentials (Bylaws Article VIII.2.h.). In focus is the question of certification of ministry as to which schools and what training will be certifiable.

The Committee has studied extensive research done on our credentialing requirements Bylaw which tracked a definite evolution of viewpoint. (This research is available for further study.) The Committee observes need for further careful study of the requirements and expresses special concern regarding certification of ministry pertaining to "which schools" and "what training." It also observes the need, among other things, for a course in A/G polity and doctrine. This should, in fact, be one of the requirements for credentialing any minister. It is of concern that some come from other fellowships and have, accordingly, equivalent training to that required

of products of our own schools or correspondence programs, but, in fact, do not have the background of training which should be required especially of A/G ministers.

The Committee recommended that a select committee be appointed by the Executive Presbytery which shall include an educator, and any others the Executive Presbytery may deem advisable, to study and recommend clarification and amplification of the credentials requirements Bylaw provisions, in the light of (1) research now available and (2) issues that have been brought into focus by the DCE Study Committee.

C. The Structure of the Division of Education

1. Work toward unifying education in one division, with departments of church school education (SSD), church school curriculum and literature, and higher education.

ACTION: The Executive Presbytery affirmed this goal and approved structure and statements of mission. (See Section VII, Goal C.1. Strategy.) The General Presbytery approved the goal and strategy in principle by motion. (NOTE: The proposed membership for the Board of Education and the three committees which will serve it had not yet been developed when the strategy was presented to the General Presbytery.)

2. Give new definition to the role and scope of the executive director of the Division of Education.

ACTION: The Executive Presbytery affirmed the goal and approved the role and scope of the director, including concurrence with the title "executive director," and agreed to pass it on to the General Presbytery. The Executive Presbytery also approved in concept the position of a development officer in the Education Department. The General Presbytery approved the goal by motion and approved the strategy in principle by motion. (See Section VII, Goal C.2. Strategy.)

3. Clarify the role of the Board of Education in the new divisional structure and its relationship to the division and the departments within it, elevating it to a level of strong influence and management of Assemblies of God higher education.

ACTION: The Executive Presbytery has affirmed the goal and the strategy. (See Section VII, Goal C.3. Strategy.) The General Presbytery approved this goal by motion.

D. The Springfield Schools

1. Place Evangel College in a sound governance, economic, and academic position, as well as in its relationship to the General Council through the Executive Presbytery; i.e.,
 - a. Board of Directors governance and administrative structure thoroughly analyzed, improved, and specified;
 - b. Operations in balance with financial base and reserves developing;
 - c. Lines of academic authority delineated, instructional programs justified in mission and need, and academic economy in evidence; and
 - d. The dilemma between the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Evangel College as to operations, borrowing authority, etc., resolved.

ACTION: The Executive Presbytery has approved the goal and detailed strategy and referred it to the General Council Board of Administration and Board of Directors of Evangel College to implement.

2. Reduce and concentrate the number of sources of appeals from Springfield schools for financial support.

ACTION: The Executive Presbytery has approved the goal. It is reasoned that this will be the outcome of a restructured Springfield school system.

3. Ultimately unify the schools in Springfield.

- a. Locate AGTS in permanent facilities as soon as possible, as economically as possible, and as strategically located as possible in terms of relationship to Headquarters and other schools.
- b. Enlarge the scope of Berean College as a part of AGTS to serve continuing and extension education functions for our constituency, including the lay ministries, preserving the three levels of current programs [College, Institute (Diploma), and Certificate].
- c. Design a master concept for the educational program of the Springfield school system.
- d. Broaden the mission and increase the effectiveness of *Parade* through attaching it to the Seminary.

4. Study the design of the boards of control of the Springfield schools and achieve sound

board operations at all General Council schools. Bear in mind the ultimate goal is unification at the board of directors level as well.

ACTION: These goals (D.3 and 4) were approved tentatively by the Executive Presbytery and reported to the General Presbytery with a recommended strategy for Goal D.3. After discussion by the General Presbytery, these two goals and the strategy, together with General Presbytery input, were referred back to the Committee. Discussion and further presentation follow later in this report.

E. Other: Church Ministries Division Board

Growing out of (1) the study of the Sunday School and Church School Literature departments (with the thought of relating them as separate departments but within one division and under one director), and (2) discussion with various key personnel, there was a strong and growing conviction that a Church Ministries Board should be authorized and appointed. It should have a generous representation of pastors selected by the Executive Presbytery. It is believed this Board can provide creative impetus and guidance to the Division of Church Ministries and its related departments (much as is the case with the Foreign Missions Board, the Home Missions Board, etc.).

The Committee recommended the establishment of this Board, and the Executive Presbytery has approved it and recommended it to the General Presbytery. The General Presbytery approved the recommendation by motion. The Committee has recommended that the Executive Presbytery appoint a special committee to draft proposed legislation implementing this provision.

Section VII. Structure of the Division of Education including Mission Statements

One of the primary assignments to the Committee was to study the Division of Christian Education. Following are strategies for Goals C.1. and C.2.

The structure of the division, the mission statements of the division and the departments, the titles of key personnel and the rationale for the title "executive director," as well as his scope of activity, function, and qualifications are all included. It is believed strategies developed for these goals will serve to facilitate their achievement. As noted earlier, these goals and strategies were recommended by the Executive Presbytery and approved by the General Presbytery.

Goal C.1. Strategy

Division of Education

Statement of Goal C.1.

Work toward unifying education in one division, with departments of church school education (SSD), church school curriculum and literature, and higher education.

Strategy for Goal C.1.

I. Structure of Division

Division of Education (Executive Director)

A. Department of Church School Education

(National Secretary)

1. Sunday school
2. Christian schools, K-12
3. Adult lay education and training (no academic credit) across all departments for service to local churches

B. Department of Church School Curriculum and Literature

(Editor in Chief)

1. Curriculum and literature for Sunday schools (Spanish and English)
2. Curriculum and literature for Christian schools, K-12 (Bible and other)
3. Curriculum and literature for adult lay education

C. Department of Higher Education

(National Secretary)

1. Institutes
2. Bible colleges
3. Colleges of arts and sciences
4. Seminary
5. Berean

II. Statements of Mission

The mission of the Division of Education is to fulfill the Great Commission which mandates reaching and winning the lost and teaching and training for life and service through (1) promoting the development of Sunday schools, Christian schools, and lay education at the local church level,

(2) providing curricular materials and services for Sunday schools, Christian schools (K-12) and adult lay education, and (3) guiding in the development of a higher education system and structure; and in its sphere of activity seeking to fulfill the threefold mission of the Assemblies of God.

A. Department of Church School Education

The mission of the Department of Church School Education is to encourage and promote the development of Sunday schools, Christian schools (K-12), and local church adult lay education; and within its field of activity to seek to fulfill the threefold mission of the Assemblies of God.

B. Department of Church School Curriculum and Literature

The mission of the Department of Church School Curriculum and Literature is to prepare all educational and curricular materials and literature for Sunday schools, Christian schools, and adult lay education in the local church; and within its field of activity to seek to fulfill the threefold mission of the Assemblies of God.

C. Department of Higher Education

The mission of the Department of Higher Education is to work toward and facilitate the development of a coordinated system of higher education endorsed by the Board of Education and comprised of soundly conceived, strong institutions which are equal in status before the Board of Education and equal in support by the entire Fellowship; and within its field of activity to seek to fulfill the threefold mission of the Assemblies of God.

NOTE: In order to achieve this general objective in its fullest sense, intermediate steps may be taken on a regional or cross-regional basis, recognizing we now have diversity in the form of district, regional, and national schools. With this in mind, the Board of Education could well encourage cross-regional cooperation, consortia, and even the development of a "system" within a greater region; for example, the two western areas of the Assemblies of God (covering the districts from which E.P.'s are selected) could develop a consortia or "system" involving their accredited colleges.

III. Name of Division

It is consensus that the name "Christian Education" usually refers to the educational work of the local church such as Sunday school, etc. Since the new scope of the division includes other educational functions, such as higher education, Christian day school education, and curriculum and literature preparation, the Committee believes that the more comprehensive title "Division of Education" more accurately denotes the activities of the division.

IV. Appointment of Division of Education Director

The Committee recommended delaying the appointment of a director pending action regarding (1) the structure of the Division of Education, (2) the profile of the director, and (3) the title "executive director."

V. Development Officer

Included in the proposed Department of Higher Education is the appointment of a development officer who would be responsible to develop a full-orbed fund-raising program for Assemblies of God higher education.

Goal C.2. Strategy

Executive Director

Statement of Goal C.2.

Give new definition to the role and scope of the executive director of the Division of Education.

Strategy for Goal C.2.

Introduction

Included in the resolution providing for the new divisional structure will be the title "executive director." The rationale is this:

The term "executive director" both denotes and connotes the desired status for this person as he speaks on behalf of Assemblies of God education, attempts to raise funds and solicit broad support for education in the Assemblies of God, and relates to other denominations, educators, and significant publics, etc. It denotes the strong leadership role regarding education in the Assemblies of God that the Committee sees this person needs to take.

1. Why "Executive Director"?

A. Based on the threefold mission of the Assemblies of God, the executive director would occupy a strategic position relating to ministry to the saints (edification through discipleship training and teaching). The twofold means of fulfilling the biblical mandate is evangelism

and education. As we enter the Decade of Harvest, it is time to elevate in perspective the one who leads the second aspect of this mandate in our Church. In the past, we may have tended to treat education as a support function. (It is observed that some areas of Church and Headquarters' work and services are support functions, but education is not among them.) It is believed that education (teaching) must be put forward as a part of the mission of the church. This will not only improve the educational mission of the Church within our Movement, but will improve our fund-raising efforts in its behalf and produce benefits in other ways.

- B. The three departments that implement one of the twofold aspects of the Great Commission require a full-time executive officer in order to lead, in keeping with the "chief executive officer" concept, and in fulfillment of the mission. It is not just a managerial function, but one of safeguarding Assemblies of God commitment to education as another safeguards the Assemblies of God commitment to missions.
- C. Status necessary for fund-raising for higher education requires the title "executive director." Because of Assemblies of God commitment to missions and appropriate commensurate level of leadership, fund-raising has been helped. The Division of Education will never accomplish its task without effective fund-raising.
- D. Changing from "national director" to "executive director" will improve the perception of the role of the "department secretary" by allowing a change in title to "national secretary."

II. Scope of Relationships (Authority) of the Director

- A. Is accountable to Executive Presbytery, to General Presbytery, and to General Council.
- B. Differs from director of publications, communications, etc., because this person will interface with college boards, district leadership, educational agencies, contributors, etc., and will not just direct a part of the headquarters functions.
- C. Would not serve as an executive presbyter.
- D. Develops financial resources for higher education.

III. Nature of Function

- A. Articulates, promotes, and safeguards the mission of education in the church, constantly keeping it relative to current needs.
- B. Coordinates the three departments and their committees, therefore requiring broad education and perspective, experience, and understanding of the educational work of the church.
- C. Maintains proper relationships with two national secretaries and an editor in chief by guiding, directing, and supporting them and their departments in the fulfillment of their missions.
- D. Represents the whole cause of education in the church at the highest levels and throughout the church as well as outside our Movement.

IV. Position Qualifications

- 1. Educational and theological background
- 2. Name recognition
- 3. Personal aptitude in working with educators
- 4. Personal writing skills
- 5. Preaching/speaking skills
- 6. Strong, successful administrative experience
- 7. Past evidence of fiscal management abilities
- 8. Have a philosophy of education and fund-raising that is compatible with the mission of the church
- 9. Fund-raising experience
- 10. Thoroughly A/C in background, spiritual experience, and commitment
- 11. Visionary in terms of ministerial needs and development
- 12. Church school education experience

Goal C.3. Strategy

Statement of Goal C.3.

Clarify the role of the Board of Education in the new divisional structure (see Bylaws, Article XII, Section 2) and its relationship to the Division of Education and the departments within it, elevating it to a level of strong influence and management of Assemblies of God higher education.

Strategy for C.3.

- 1. Establish a Board of Education which shall give oversight to fulfillment of the educational

mandate of the church, by developing policy statements; by guiding the development of the educational system, structure, and services of the church; and by monitoring its effectiveness and progress. The Board members who do not serve by virtue of office shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery in consultation with the executive director of the Division of Education and ratified by the General Presbytery. It shall consist of members to be constituted as follows:

- A. Executive director of the Division of Education (Chairman);
- B. Four pastors (one each from churches with membership of 0-99, 100-299, 300-499, and 500-plus; and regionally distributed, if possible), with demonstrated support of education;
- C. Two Assemblies of God lay persons (with knowledge of college affairs but not associated with internal administration of an Assemblies of God college;
- D. Two district superintendents and two district Christian education directors regionally distributed, if possible;
- E. General superintendent (ex officio);
- F. One additional executive presbyter;
- G. Two presidents of endorsed colleges (because of the heavy involvement of the Board with higher education); and
- H. Two national secretaries and the editor in chief in the Division of Education.

NOTE: Except for those who serve on the Board of Education by virtue of office (A, E, and H), each member of the Board shall serve for a term of 3 years and may be eligible to succeed himself/herself one term.

II. Establish departmental committees which shall guide in the development of programs and services consistent with the educational mandate of the church. The committees shall report to the Board of Education through the committee chairs. Chairpersons and members not serving by virtue of office shall be nominated by the Board of Education and appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

- A. Committee on Church School Education will consist of a chairperson; three district Christian education directors not serving on the Board of Education or the CSCL Committee; two representatives from the Department of Church School Education representing the areas of Sunday schools and Christian schools; one local church Christian education director; the president of the Association of Assemblies of God Christian Schools; and the editor in chief of the Church School Department of Curriculum and Literature. The national secretary of the Department of Church School Education shall be a member by virtue of office and shall serve as resource person and secretary to the Committee. The executive director of the division shall be an ex officio member.
- B. Committee on Church School Curriculum and Literature will consist of a chairperson; headquarters curriculum coordinator; two representatives from the Church School Curriculum and Literature Department representing Sunday schools and Christian schools; one local church Christian Education director; a curriculum specialist from the Association of Assemblies of God Christian Schools selected by the Executive Presbytery; and the national secretary of the Department of Church School Education. The editor in chief of the Department of Church School Curriculum and Literature shall be a member by virtue of office and shall serve as resource person and secretary to the Committee. The executive director of the division shall be an ex officio member.
- C. Committee on Higher Education will consist of a chairperson and presidents of all endorsed Assemblies of God postsecondary institutions. The national secretary of the Department of Higher Education shall be a member by virtue of office and shall serve as resource person and secretary to the Committee. The executive director of the division shall be an ex officio member.

III. As to duties:

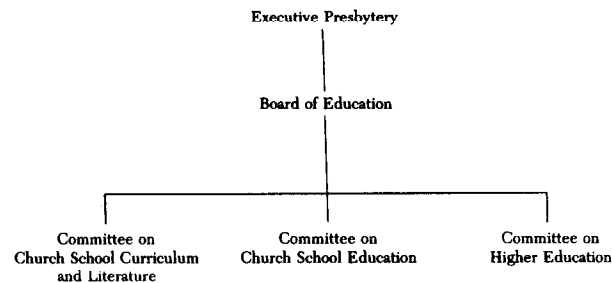
A. Authorize the Board of Education to:

- 1. Meet semi-annually or as needed, being amenable to the Executive Presbytery in all matters;
- 2. Supervise the activities of the Division of Education and the committees functioning under it in fulfilling the denominational and departmental missions.

- 3. Review annually the endorsement of Assemblies of God postsecondary schools on the basis of endorsement criteria developed by the Board of Education and approved by the Executive Presbytery, and take appropriate action with regard to the renewal or nonrenewal of such endorsement as recommended by a subcommittee which the Board shall establish for this purpose;
 - 4. Review for approval or disapproval application for the opening of any institution of higher education sponsored by a credentialed minister, a local church, a district, or a region within the Assemblies of God; and
 - 5. Develop the Assemblies of God education system and structure through advice and counsel, including the right to recommend the closing or merging of Assemblies of God postsecondary schools, as determined by the needs of the denomination.
- B. Authorize the Committee on Church School Education to counsel with and advise the department as it seeks to fulfill its mission: (as previously stated).
 - C. Authorize the Committee on Church School Curriculum and Literature to counsel with and advise the department as it seeks to fulfill its mission: (as previously stated).
 - D. Authorize the Committee on Higher Education to counsel with and advise the department as it seeks to fulfill its mission: (as previously stated).

In addition to the mission statement of the department, other duties of the Committee will include: (1) To take a lead role in providing opportunities for development of personnel in institutional governance, recognizing the ever-increasing complexity of requirements at this level; (2) To work with the department to effect a program for securing funds from the constituency, the churches, foundations, and other legitimate sources for the support of Assemblies of God higher education.

Board of Education Flow Chart



General Council of the Assemblies of God Board Composition

To facilitate understanding of the composition of the new Board of Education as proposed, the following Board listings of membership are given:

Foreign Missions Board 16 Members	Home Missions Board 12 Members	Board of Publication 5 Members	Proposed Board of Education 18 Members
Executive director of Division	National director of Division	National director of Division	Executive director of Division
2 Executive Presbyters	1 member of Board of Administration	General superintendent	General Superintendent (ex officio)
Administrative assistant	2 nonresident members of Executive Presbytery	General treasurer	1 Executive Presbyter
4 field directors	8 other ministers from '8 geographical areas of Fellowship	2 additional members from Executive Presbytery or national directors who shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery	4 pastors with demonstrated support of education chosen to represent geographical areas of the U.S. and various sized churches
8 pastors of proven foreign missions zeal and accomplishments			2 laymen not associated with internal administration of A/G colleges
			2 presidents of endorsed A/G institutions of higher learning
			2 district C. E. directors
			2 district superintendents
			3 national secretaries (1 is editor in chief)

Section VIII. General Council Schools

A. The Headquarters Schools

Under the directive of the Executive Presbytery, the Committee studied the finance and governance of the headquarters schools.

1. Short-term Concerns

The Committee studied the budgetary performance and Board structure of each of the General Council schools. It found budgetary control in place and working at Central Bible College, The Seminary, and Berean College. It did not feel it was necessary to make any remedial recommendations pertaining to these three at this time.

The Committee recognized that a major concern of the whole Fellowship and one of the prime reasons for the Committee's appointment centered in the financial situation at Evangel College. Hence, it studied this matter intensely as requested. Early, the Committee concluded that not only had a severe financial crisis developed, but there were underlying causes which needed remedy. Hence, the Committee studied previous committee and financial reports, the constitution and bylaws of the college, and the administrative relationships. Also, the Committee gave special attention to the relationship between the Board of Directors and administration of Evangel and the Executive Presbytery. The Committee continued to monitor the financial situation at Evangel for a time and has significant long-term concerns about it, although the current year is much improved.

Recommendations have been made to the Executive Presbytery. That body continues to monitor the situation monthly. It has standby action already specified and ready for implementation if needed.

The Committee prepared both a detailed analysis and a detailed strategy of recommended internal and external adjustments and presented it to the Executive Presbytery in an effort to accomplish Goals D.1.a, b, c, and d. The Executive Presbytery approved this detailed

strategy and has assigned it to the Board of Administration of the General Council and the Board of Directors of Evangel College to implement.

2. Long-range Concerns

The Committee studied the curricula of Central Bible College and Evangel College and discovered a surprising amount of duplication wherein 78.5% of the total curriculum of Central Bible College overlaps that of Evangel College. This overlapping includes not only courses, but major and minor programs. Central Bible College curriculum includes a major in Elementary Education for Christian schools and minors in History, English, Physical Education, Philosophy and Psychology. This overlapping also includes the fact that Evangel College is now offering significantly more courses and credits in theology than are available at CBC. The Committee believes that this overlap presents a competitive situation in curricular offerings and an academic inefficiency which has implications regarding financial and personnel resources.

In the Committee's judgment, this poses a severe long-range concern. Should this situation remain as is, it will continue to erode our financial base and tax our academic resources (faculty, library, etc.).

It is the Committee's judgment also that there is need to address the financial model at the seminary on a long-term basis whereas they have no permanent facilities and there is a steadily decreasing General Council subsidy.

Still another long-range concern is the development of four separate higher education libraries.

Because of these prevailing conditions, it is necessary to conduct four separate fund-raising programs for higher education emanating from the headquarters city, in addition to the General Council appeals for higher education for the whole Fellowship.

The long-range concern regarding Berean College, in the Committee's view, is that it will not fulfill its potential for nontraditional education as a separate institution.

B. Committee Study of Ultimately Unifying the General Council Schools

The DCE Committee study concerning ultimately unifying the General Council schools, General Presbytery response to the draft report, and subsequent discussion follows:

A major assignment given by the Executive Presbytery included looking "at the four Springfield schools with the idea of bringing them into a university." The Committee studied this at length and presented the following statement of goal: (Committee step one)

Statement of Goal D.3.

Ultimately Unify the Schools in Springfield

- Locate AGTS in permanent facilities as soon as possible, as economically as possible, and as strategically located as possible in terms of relationship to headquarters and other schools.
- Enlarge the scope of Berean College as a part of AGTS to serve continuing and extension education functions for our constituency, including the lay ministries, preserving the three levels of current programs (College, Institute [Diploma], and Certificate).
- Design a master concept for the educational program in the Springfield school system.
- Broaden the mission and increase the effectiveness of *Paraclete* through attaching it to AGTS.

Upon securing tentative approval for the goal statement, the Committee developed the following recommended strategy for its implementation and presented it to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery: (Committee step two)

Strategy for Goal D.3.

Strategy Introduction

Institutions are products of individual histories and are so complex that no statistical or taxonomic formulation can describe them. Classification systems include type of governance, denominational polity, form of ownership, and educational attributes. The great variety in the institutional patterns indicates that no way has been found for reconciling all of the interests.

Generally, it is believed that the key to institutional identity and type is the board of governance. Institutions are effective because their boards of governance are active. Institutions that lose their effectiveness get into financial difficulty and deficit conditions, and change in their mission and purpose, because the board of governance permits such changes.

At the present time there are four institutions of higher education in Springfield and they represent diverse levels and areas of educational activity—namely, Evangel College, Central Bible College, Berean College, and the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary. These four institutions,

each of which draft a separate statement of mission, exist with separate boards of governance and administration and report individually to the Executive and General Presbyteries.

Are institutions with such diversity and separate identification, governance, and direction-setting, serving the constituency as effectively and efficiently as possible? The Committee believes the answer is "no." Is it possible to unite, integrate, and make effective such diverse institutions? The Committee believes that answer is "yes."

Strategy Process

An approach based on a theme of governance would permit such a goal to be realized. Such an approach assumes a process over time in three (3) phases. Indicators toward the development of the next phase would come from governance and economic achievements rather than considerations for personnel and curriculum. The entire process could be completed by the year A.D. 2000. In following a process approach, considerations for institutional traditions, personnel subjectivity, and curriculum visions and desires can all be addressed through consultation, negotiation, consensus, and strong loyalty, though it will require working together.

I. Phases and Chronology in brief are as follows:

- A. Phase I: Two institutional types with two boards and two administrations reporting to Executive and General Presbyteries (by 1985);
- B. Phase II: Two institutional types with one board and one administration reporting to Executive and General Presbyteries (1995-2000); and
- C. Phase III: One institutional type (university) with one board and one administration reporting to Executive and General Presbyteries (2000-).

This development process, should it proceed through phase III, would result in a new General Council institution, a university. *It should be pointed out, however, that the process could be suspended temporarily or indefinitely at any phase of development should the Executive or General Presbytery, or the General Council, determine that goals have been met. In any case, it would be the goal of the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Governance to protect and enhance the fulfillment of institutional missions as well as to merge the functions of the four current institutions. This single institution would have as its purpose the development of the ministry of all believers as called for in both The Master Plan for Assemblies of God Postsecondary Education and The Report of the Committee to Study Assemblies of God Colleges Relative to Purposes and Fulfillment.*

II. University Study/Planning Commission

- A. Appoint a University Study/Planning Commission with two sub-committees which would serve through the decade and guide the emergence of the university. Guidance would be through reports and recommendations to the Executive Presbytery for action; hence, the Commission would serve as a creature of the Executive Presbytery. The Commission should function with two sub-committees (membership for these could include some persons other than commissioners to be determined by the Commission with approval of the Executive Presbytery): 1) Academic Study/Planning and Personnel, and 2) Campus and Facilities Study/Planning.
- B. Appoint a special assistant to the Executive Presbytery whose title could be "Director of University Planning and Development." (This person should be an "outside" appointment in effort to achieve and maintain objectivity, and this would not necessarily be a full-time position.) The role will include:
 1. Chair the University Study/Planning Commission;
 2. Design and manage the planning and reporting functions of the Commission;
 3. Consult with institutional boards and presidents on current overall planning to assure integration with long-range university planning, and
 4. Report to the general superintendent and the Executive Presbytery regarding the development of the university and coordinate with the Executive Director of the Division of Education regarding university planning and its integration with overall educational planning for the A/G.
- C. The seven member University Study/Planning Commission shall include (or as designated by the Executive Presbytery):
 1. Director of University Study/Planning and Development serving as chairman*
 2. General superintendent
 3. General treasurer
 4. Board chairmen (2)*
 5. Executive Director of Education

6. One more member "at large" (this should be an individual not directly associated with headquarters or the General Council schools)*

NOTE: Four current presidents to serve as consultants

*To be appointed by Executive Presbytery

- D. The Commission may need the services of an outside consultant(s) from time to time.
- E. The same kind of commitment that is now required of any board of directors will be required in this instance to assure there is: (1) a clearly and pointedly written statement of mission, (2) adherence to and fulfillment of this statement, (3) preservation of the vision and purposes of the existing colleges, and (4) predominant emphasis on both full-time ministry and "life ministry" preparation opportunities. The University Study/Planning Commission, the Executive Presbytery, the General Presbytery and ultimately the Board(s) of Control will have to exercise this commitment. That these objectives can be accomplished has been demonstrated in many Christian universities which have stayed "on course" since their founding. As is the case with all higher education, leadership vigilance is required in the ongoing decision-making process and by the governance system.

Strategy Conclusion

In order to develop this strategy and achieve this goal, strong commitment on a continuing basis with clear understanding would be required. Legal documents would need to be structured so as to permit/reflect the development of institutional types. Further, it should be noted the transition to each developmental phase is conditioned on a finance/economic model. Therefore, a business plan would need to be prepared for each phase/type.

Section IX General Presbytery, Executive Presbytery, & Committee Interaction Regarding General Council Schools

As noted under "Committee Procedure" (Section III above), the Committee submitted an extensive draft report to the General Presbytery in August 1988 (Committee step three). There was much discussion, especially with reference to the university idea. Concerns expressed centered in three areas: (1) Why a university? (2) What are the alternatives? and (3) How can the mission of Central Bible College be preserved? The Committee desired not only to preserve but enhance this mission.

(Committee step four) Over the signature of the general superintendent, a mailing was sent to the general presbyters enclosing (1) a rationale for the university idea. (This is attached as Appendix V to this report.) Also, (2) a series of seven alternatives, ranging from offering only ministerial training at the General Council schools to the university idea, were identified and presented. Written response was sought.

The Committee affirmed that the opportunity and structure to *preserve and enhance* the ministerial preparation mission of Central Bible College was inherent in the three-phased university structure outlined above, and the responsibility to do so would be in the hands of the University Study/Planning Commission and board(s) of control working under the Executive Presbytery. The Committee firmly believes this objective must be and can be accomplished in this way.

Seven Options, General Presbytery Response to Them, and Subsequent Evaluation

In response to the draft report, the General Presbytery asked for alternatives to the idea of a university in Springfield. The Committee identified the following options:

Alternatives in Brief:

- A. Leave the four Springfield institutions as they are, totally separate in operation.
- B. Leave the four Springfield institutions as they are except to provide some limited coordinated service; e.g. library and food services.
- C. Place Central Bible College, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, and Berean College together, with Evangel College separate, ultimately offering its own graduate degree programs.
- D. Preserve Central Bible College autonomy and locate Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, Berean College, and Evangel College together, with Evangel's graduate degrees paralleling the seminary program.
- E. Commit the Springfield school system to ministerial training only, removing arts and sciences as an educational service offered in Springfield.
- F. Develop the integrated university model.
- G. Develop a national university system with the regional schools joining the Springfield schools

A survey was sent to the General Presbytery by the general superintendent in effort to secure the opinions of the brethren regarding them. [NOTE: An eighth option identified later, but not posed to the General Presbytery, is: one or more of the regional schools ultimately developing a university (or universities).]

Responses were tabulated carefully with the following results:

1. Half of all respondents placed the Committee proposal as their first choice. Seventy-one percent placed this alternative, ultimately establishing an Assemblies of God university in Springfield by the year 2000, as their first, second, or third choice: (Only eighteen percent placed it in their fourth through seventh choice.)
2. Fifty-five percent placed alternative "C," combining Central Bible College, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, and Berean College on the same campus as their first, second, or third choice. (Twenty-nine percent chose this as their fourth through seventh choice.)
3. Fifty-one percent placed alternative "D," combining Evangel College, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, and Berean College, leaving Central Bible College as is, as their first through third choice. (Only twenty-seven percent chose it in the fourth through seventh position.)
4. Not one person chose committing the Springfield institutions exclusively to ministerial training as his first choice. (Only five percent placed it in the second or third position.)
5. Only six percent chose alternative "A" (leave the four schools as they are) as their first choice. (Only eighteen percent placed this in the first through third choice.)
6. Fifty-one percent placed alternative "G," a national university system, in their first through third position. (However, forty-one percent placed it in their fourth through seventh position, with twenty-nine percent placing it in their sixth or seventh position.)

Conclusions from Survey:

1. The General Presbytery respondents placed much favor on a continued strong ministerial training emphasis.
2. They placed much favor on the continued offering of arts and sciences.
3. They placed much favor on a reconfiguration of the Springfield schools into a unified system.
4. They placed significant favor on the university in Springfield idea, with seventy-one percent identifying it as their first to third choice out of seven options.
5. They registered significant difference or division of opinion regarding a national university system with the regional and district schools joining the General Council schools in this.

Alternatives, Advantages, and Limitations

As Committee step five, in further evaluation of the three alternatives held in highest favor by the General Presbytery in its survey response, the Committee identified the advantages and limitations of each of the three alternatives. These were presented to the Executive Presbytery and discussed. The Executive Presbytery requested that the Committee present the three favored alternatives from the foregoing list as follows:

- A. Place Central Bible College, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, and Berean College together, with Evangel College separate, ultimately offering its own graduate degree programs.
- B. Preserve Central Bible College autonomy and locate Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, Berean College, and Evangel College together, with Evangel's graduate degrees paralleling the seminary program.
- C. Develop the integrated university model.

The advantages and limitations of the three alternatives are as follows:

Alternative A: Place Central Bible College, The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, and Berean College together, with Evangel College separate, ultimately offering its own graduate degree programs.

Advantages	Limitations
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintains flow of undergraduate and graduate level ministerial education as distinct from arts and sciences education. 2. Addresses the perception that Central Bible College's distinctive mission is being diluted. 3. Allows concentration of theological education, including library, on one campus along with its concomitant activities. 4. Does not disallow the potential development of a university at Evangel College should the Fellowship determine that direction in the future. 5. Allows for some unification of services, auxiliaries (housing, food service, bookstore), and facilities. 6. Releases much needed space in headquarters facilities (two floors in the Distribution Center). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Could tend to blur the understanding of Bible college "terminal" education. 2. Perpetuates duplication in governance and operations board, administration, academics, auxiliaries, business functions, etc. 3. May impede the potential development of a university in Springfield, which may encourage others to meet the educational needs of our students in the future. 4. May present a major problem in terms of accreditation. The standards/policies of two associations may disallow the unification of governance and may pose further accreditation difficulty. 5. Presents less desirable opportunity for placement of seminary facilities in terms of visibility, accessibility, and appropriate space.

Alternative D: Preserve Central Bible College autonomy and locate the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, Berean College, and Evangel College together, with Evangel's graduate degrees paralleling the seminary program.

Advantages	Limitation
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continues separation of undergraduate terminal ministerial preparation from all graduate education, including seminary education, and continues the traditional full-time ministerial preparation emphasis at Central Bible College. 2. Harmonizes the accreditation factor: on one campus the American Association of Bible Colleges, and on the other campus the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education, National Association of Schools of Music, and Association of Theological Schools. 3. Expedites the development of the Glenstone property for the purpose of expanding educational service to our Fellowship. 4. Allows for the efficient merging of libraries, food services, and other auxiliary functions and the separate and occasional joint use of other facilities such as chapel and classrooms. 5. Makes possible the ultimate development of a university on the Evangel College campus should the Fellowship determine that direction in the future. 6. Preserves and makes possible the enhancement of Central Bible College's distinctives. 7. Releases much needed space in headquarters facilities (two floors in the Distribution Center). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continues the dichotomy and "competition" in the headquarters education system. 2. Perpetuates duplication in governance and operations: board, administration, academics, auxiliaries, business functions, etc. 3. Presents the possibility that the independent position of Central Bible College may result in negatives in the long run in enrollment, perception, and academic strength. 4. Could result in a perception that the seminary education is being built only on the Christian arts and sciences undergraduate base. 5. Could be perceived as an effort to isolate Central Bible College.

Alternative E: Develop the integrated university model.

Advantages

1. Presents in higher education an opportunity to be uniquely Christian; i.e., the integration of faith and knowledge with Pentecostal distinctives.
2. Allows us in a greater way to educate and to train students in the Pentecostal traditions and retain them for our Fellowship.
3. Provides an alternative to secular and humanistic education with its fragmented knowledge and limited truth; i.e., the absence of integration of faith and learning and biblical absolutes.
4. Identifies with the movement in evangelical Christianity to respond to the challenges of secularization by establishing Christian (in our case Pentecostal) universities.
5. Provides for unity and vision in the deliberate creation of an enhanced educational vehicle for all higher education in the Assemblies of God at Springfield rather than allowing the natural evolution of an educational trend to occur.
6. Provides for unity of education in Springfield, operations, financial appeals, student recruitment, business, academics, auxiliary services, etc.
7. Reduces bifurcation, duplication, and competition in the General Council schools.
8. Provides for one board of governance which will give singular direction to institutional mission, operating, and long-range planning.
9. Provides for broader interaction between students preparing for all phases of ministry.
10. Provides for a unified system of financial aid, tuition, and fees.
11. Provides for development of a single endowment for higher education in the headquarters city.
12. Simplifies the administration of policies governing the employment of all personnel.
13. Allows for the development of graduate programs at masters and doctoral levels including (but not limited to) education, educational administration, business, and music.
14. Provides financial efficiencies through coordinated planning and development of facilities.
15. Releases much needed space in headquarters facilities (two floors in the Distribution Center).

The Committee highly recommends to the General Council that it authorize the Executive Presbytery to appoint a University Study/Planning Commission as outlined above in the report, with the understanding that it will work under the direction of Executive Presbytery and report to it. The commission's work will be reported to the General Presbytery and the General Council and further guidance and direction sought from both the General Presbytery and the General Council.

Limitations

1. While there may be immediate savings, there will be long-range costs for additional programs and services.
2. Could potentially polarize the ideological climate of the Fellowship.
3. Demands increased effort and greater time in governance on the part of leadership. The escalation of educational programs requires additional safeguards and vigilance regarding mission and purpose.
4. May be perceived by some as a dilution of the mission of Central Bible College.
5. Creates potential for employee insecurity during the time of transition.
6. The connotation of a university is sometimes viewed negatively from a selective perception of the history of universities. Some universities which have departed from their original mission will be cited negatively, while others which have stayed true to their mission are not considered.
7. Does not provide an insulated environment for ministerial students at the undergraduate level.

Section X Summary and Conclusion

The Committee now sees its total assignment as a more awesome task than it originally observed. It has worked prayerfully, carefully, and deliberately, spending hundreds of man-hours. It has reported to the Executive Presbytery in detail six times and once to the General Presbytery. (It reviewed its report again for the General Presbytery at its pleasure in August 1989.)

Much research has been done, consultation held, and deliberation conducted. Goals have been set, strategies developed, and actions taken.

Following is a very brief summary of goals, actions taken, and actions needed.

Goals and Actions

1. Regarding the nature, structure, and development of Higher Education in the Assemblies of God, 11 goals have been set. Nine have been referred to the new Board of Education for implementation. One, together with a model statement of purpose, has been referred to the General Council Board of Administration for relay to the boards of control of the General Council schools, and to the new Board of Education for relay to the boards of control of the other school. (See Appendix II) One ("Cultivating the Call") has been assigned to the national Youth Department (Appendix III; see also Appendix IV).
2. Regarding education and qualifications for ministry, a Pentecostal Theology of Ministry is in preparation. Furthermore, it is recommended that a study of the stance of the General Council regarding credentialing requirements be done by a select committee.
3. Regarding the structure of the Division of Education, the full report is herein contained and enabling legislation will be forthcoming from the General Council Resolutions Committee.
4. Regarding the General Council schools, the report is herein contained together with appendices. Guidance from the General Council will be sought for the Executive Presbytery.
5. Regarding the potential development of a Church Ministries Board, the recommendation of the Committee and the action of the General Presbytery are in the hands of the Executive Presbytery.

The Committee expresses appreciation to the Executive Presbytery and General Council for the privilege of having served on so meaningful an assignment, and to the General Presbytery for its helpful input, and voices the prayer that the grace of God will rest upon us as we deliberate these matters, and the guidance of almighty God will enable us as we seek to fulfill our threefold mission as a fellowship of believers.

Respectfully submitted,

The Division of Education Study Committee

D. V. Hurst, Chairman	Robert E. Cooley
Don Argue	Charles E. Pace
M. Wayne Benson	Everett R. Stenhouse
Robert L. Brandt	David R. Bundrick, Recording Secretary

Appendix I Glossary

1. Preparation for Ministry. The process in which an individual, in response to a divine call, equips himself/herself for full-time ministry. This process will include education and training, using informal and/or formal methods, in individual and/or institutional programs, and takes into account life experiences and personal gifts, thereby qualifying for peer recognition, license, or ordination for ministry.
Comment: The normal pattern in the Assemblies of God includes (and should include) formal programs and lifelong learning.
2. Life Ministry. The service of all believers, as the people of God, unto Christ and His Church through worship, instruction, fellowship, world evangelization, and the making of disciples wherever they may be . . . at home, in the neighborhood, in the marketplace, and in the church.
3. Ministry. As we as a church use this term, it means full-time service, as a result of a divine call, to Christ's Church as apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers (Ephesians 4:11), exhorters, administrators, leaders, and helpers (Romans 12:7-8).
4. Education. The process of providing a person with knowledge, skill, and attitudes toward

competence, and developing desirable qualities of mind and character through formal study. Higher education serves postsecondary students in a variety of traditional and nontraditional (e.g., correspondence) systems, including certificate, diploma, and degree programs, etc.

5. Training. Normally this process involves developing a particular skill or group of skills and usually gives little attention to the holistic development of the student, assuming that has taken place already.
6. Institute. Short-term program for training in one subject or skill.
7. Junior College. A postsecondary (meaning beyond high school) educational institution that offers two years of study corresponding to the first two years of a senior college, and prepares for transfer to such a college.
8. Senior College. A postsecondary educational institution offering a four-year course of general studies (and usually preprofessional training) leading to a bachelor's degree.
9. Bible College. An independent postsecondary educational institution offering a course of biblical and general studies and professional training leading to a bachelor's degree.
10. Seminary. A professional graduate school giving training in religion and theology toward preparing persons for ordination as church pastors, requiring a college degree for entry and having a three-year course of study leading to a masters degree in Divinity, and with a variety of other theological study programs available.
11. University. An institution made up of an undergraduate division which confers bachelor's degrees and a graduate division which comprises one or more graduate schools and professional schools, each of which may confer masters degrees and doctorates.

Appendix II Recommendations Regarding Purpose for Higher Education in the Assemblies of God Including Model Statement of Purpose

Goal A.9

Statement of Goal Strategy*

The Division of Christian Education Study Committee reaffirms the thrust of the Committee to Study Assemblies of God Colleges Relative to Purpose and Fulfillment, and recommends that all boards of directors of our endorsed postsecondary institutions review their mission statements and seek to insure that the following recommendations and elements are properly included and accounted for. The concern of both committees and the General Presbytery is the maintenance of the original vision of the Fellowship in our educational institutions.

- A. The Committee also reaffirms the importance of the resolution adopted by the Executive Presbytery in October 1983 concerning postsecondary education in the Assemblies of God. Within the report entitled, "The Master Plan for Assemblies of God Postsecondary Education," three basic statements of philosophy are set forth as follows:
 1. It is recommended that whether preparing ministerial or nonministerial personnel, our educational goals should focus on developing the whole man: physically, intellectually, socially, and spiritually (Luke 2:52).¹
 2. It is recommended that the mission of postsecondary education in the Assemblies of God should have as its first priority the training of ministers.²
 3. It is recommended that other educational and training efforts be limited to careers in church-related human service fields.³
- B. In view of this previously adopted statement prepared by the Board of Education of the Assemblies of God and subsequently adopted by the Executive Presbytery, FIRST, all Assemblies of God postsecondary educational institutions must be committed to godly character formation, so that all students, whether ministerial or nonministerial, shall be shaped by training based upon the solid conviction that all truth has its source in God.
- C. SECONDLY, it is evident that the stated objectives of Assemblies of God postsecondary education should have as their first concern ministerial training, that is, preparing men and women for spiritual leadership and ministry in the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- D. THIRDLY, other education and training efforts should "be limited to careers in church-related human service fields."
- E. Model Unified Statement of Purpose

The Division of Christian Education Study Committee reaffirms the need for a Unified Statement of Purpose, as set forth in the recommendation of the Committee to Study Assemblies of God Colleges Relative to Purpose and Fulfillment, adopted by the General

Presbytery August 11, 1986. It is essential that we adhere to the greater purpose of our Fellowship. This model, while expanded slightly, is essentially that set forth in the original recommended model.

*Revised October 18, 1988

Goal A.9

Strategy

As indicated in the presentation of the original model:

"This model is not to be considered a final draft, but rather a suggested framework of unity around which the more specific and unique purposes of our colleges may be built. It is not the desire of this Committee to recommend an inflexible structure or to preempt the additional unique purposes of individual institutions. Nor is our recommendation intended as an exclusive statement. It is the strong feeling of this Committee, however, that a model framework be included within the stated purpose of all Assemblies of God institutions to provide unified vision at a national level, while maintaining autonomy."

Unified Statement of Purpose

- I. In relation to GENERAL EDUCATIONAL VALUES AND OBJECTIVES: All Assemblies of God postsecondary educational institutions must be committed to *godly character formation* and excellence in education so that all students, whether ministerial or nonministerial, shall be shaped by training based upon the solid conviction that all truth has its source in God; and shall:
 - A. Be exclusively based on the WORD OF GOD as the inspired, infallible guide for faith and practice. The Word of God shall be given the *highest priority* in every discipline so that all educational pursuits will be interpreted in the light of Scripture.
 - B. Carefully maintain, from both a theological and practical perspective, the PENTECOSTAL DISTINCTIVE in all educational and extra-curricular activities.
 - C. Maintain an atmosphere that is conducive to SPIRITUAL GROWTH and DEVELOPMENT with opportunity for personal involvement in both worship and outreach, thus preparing students to become models of New Testament Christianity in faith and practice.
 - D. Challenge every student to be personally involved in WORLD EVANGELISM.
- II. In relationship to TRAINING FOR CAREERS IN MINISTRY:

All Assemblies of God Bible colleges, institutes, and seminaries shall provide for MINISTERIAL TRAINING to include foundational Bible and theology courses, along with sufficient practical experience and courses to prepare a student for entering into a life of dedicated ministry. Such practical courses should include training for preaching and teaching ministries (pastoral, missions, evangelistic, etc.), as well as support ministries (youth, music, Christian education development and management, etc.).
- III. In relationship to TRAINING FOR CAREERS IN CHURCH-RELATED HUMAN SERVICE FIELDS:

All Assemblies of God arts & sciences colleges, liberal arts colleges, or universities offering liberal arts or professional training should seek as their highest objective the education of men and women for a lifetime of ministry of the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need, both in the local church and beyond; i.e., "life ministry."
- IV. As a result, there will be a continuing supply of SPIRITUALLY COMMITTED, ACADEMICALLY QUALIFIED, and PRACTICALLY PREPARED GRADUATES so as to fill the leadership and ministry needs from generation to generation.

Appendix III Strategy for A-10 "Cultivating the Call"

Goal A.10

Statement of Goal

Realizing the call to ministry is born in a revival atmosphere and often occurs at the local church, youth camp, and convention altars, work toward a greater emphasis on the call to ministry among our young people (especially high school juniors and seniors). This should be done through the national and district youth departments and in providing materials which will assist leaders in local churches, youth camps, and youth conventions in "Cultivating the Call."

Strategy

Executive Presbytery assign to the national Youth Department the responsibility to develop a "Cultivating the Call" sense of mission and program, providing it through the national and district

youth departments. This program should be aimed at high school juniors and seniors especially and designed to challenge them:

1. to think call to full-time ministry as a first consideration in life vocation decisions;
2. to be open and respond to the call if they sense it rests upon them;
3. to go through a ministry development program, designed by the national Youth Department and provided at the local church level, which would include studies and field education at the high school level and prepare them to be "a step ahead" as they enter college-level ministerial training; and
4. to think, commit to, and initially prepare for a lifetime of witness and ministry in the church and in their vocations, even if they do not sense a call to full-time ministry.

NOTE: Here is where a great share of the 20,000 new workers for the Decade of Harvest will be generated. The real burden to place the emphasis is at the local church. A great share of the 20,000 will first "hear the call" at the local church, youth camp, and youth convention altars.

March 28, 1988

Appendix IV Philosophy of Preparation and Development of Ministry Full-time Christian Service

- A. In part, the philosophy of preparation and development of a full-time ministry includes:
 1. Heralding the call to ministry and prayer for response to that call, as well as its culture and nurture, are primarily the responsibility of the local church.
 2. Development of a full-time ministry is the joint venture of the local church and the fellowship of churches. The Fellowship and churches work together through their various programs, colleges, and training institutions—using formal and informal education and training, including internships as well as associateships in practice development—to fulfill this purpose.
 3. Continuing education and development of the ministries is a lifelong process utilizing many approaches; i.e., formal education as well as seminars, retreats, correspondence, journals, etc.
- B. The Assemblies of God needs to seize the initiative, exhibit creativity, and explore all promising avenues of approach in stimulating response to the call to ministry, encouraging preparation for it, and developing its mature expression at all levels: local church, institutional, and continuing education.
- C. Examples of the creative approach to ministerial development can include:
 1. Level One: Local Church
 - a. "Cultivating the Call" program as outlined by the DCE Study Committee.
 - b. Youth ministry/missions programs—AIM, MAPS, etc. These are carefully supervised, short-term, beginning ministerial efforts.
 - c. Aggressive discipleship enlistment development programs (e.g., "Fire Institute").
 - d. Short training in the local church in a Paul/Timothy mold wherein pastors model and teach prospective ministers in initial ministerial development.
 2. Level Two
Fellowship-sponsored ministerial development in Bible institutes, colleges, and seminaries, and through correspondence programs, all guided by specially called and prepared teachers (in the biblical sense).
 3. Level Three
Continuing education—Fellowship-sponsored efforts of many kinds that are designed to provide enrichment experiences in ministerial development: journals, institutes, retreats, correspondence courses, extension graduate education, leaves of absence for study, etc.

Appendix V Why a University?

The idea of a university is uniquely Christian. Meaning "one truth," for us it must have Christian derivation and meaning; i.e., Jesus said, "I am truth." The integration of faith and learning and the understanding of all knowledge in the light of Christian faith has sound biblical basis.

The secular university fails on two counts: (1) It cannot and does not answer the question, "What is truth?" (2) It does not integrate truth and knowledge. At best it provides a montage of knowledge.

In the opinion of many, as our higher educational system continues to emerge, we likely will have a university. The questions are: Where will it be placed? How will it develop? When will it develop? How will its development be guided?

The Committee believes that now is the time to guide its emergence, and further believes it should be placed under the oversight of the leadership in the headquarters city. The educational resources already in place in Springfield should be utilized to their maximum potential in the development of the university.

It is believed that the Assemblies of God must provide education and training for its membership, within the context of its theological position and commitments, in order to perpetuate the fulfillment of its mission.

Central in the total higher education scheme of the Assemblies of God is and must be the provision of opportunity of preparation for full-time ministry and the ministry of all believers regardless of vocation.

Inherent in the provision of a full-orbed educational system for our church must be graduate-level studies; i.e., seminary, which we now have, and other service-to-people type graduate level programs. (See Master Plan For Assemblies of God Postsecondary Education.) It is imperative that we provide graduate-level programs for the development of faculty and administration for our K-12, Bible institute, college, seminary, and graduate schools (both here and abroad). Limiting all such preparation to non-Assemblies of God centers, particularly if it is required by our own schools in the grooming of faculty who will train our ministerial students, is not acceptable.

There are several reasons for considering the development of the university in Springfield. The most prominent are cited as follows:

1. The elimination of much of the inefficient duplication (both academic and financial) and the concentration of strengths. These include:
 - a. Education programs—majors, minors, courses
 - b. Faculties
 - c. Administration functions
 - 1) Finance/business
 - 2) Promotion
 - 3) Senior administrators
 - 4) Boards of control

(We now have four such boards. This is an expensive, duplicative and, most seriously, potentially divergent and noncoordinated situation.)
 - d. Libraries (We are now developing four separate libraries in the headquarters city.)
2. The elimination of divergent, duplicative, and even competitive appeals and functions in recruitment of students and monetary support. By concentrating these efforts, great strength can be generated.
3. The resolution of an educational enigma; i.e., "Why four higher educational institutions sponsored by one church in a single location? Are we institutionalizing segments of the educational mission of the church?"
4. the concentration of a single-minded, clarion call to the young people of our church pertaining to life commitment and preparation (both life-ministry and full-time ministry).

Rev. 4/89

Election of Executive Presbyter—Northwest Area

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the first elective ballot for executive presbyter from the Northwest Area.

Total votes cast	2,222
Needed to elect	1,482
R. Earl Book	149
Robert L. Brandt	1,346
Wesley J. Bransford	21
Warren D. Bullock	73
Frank E. Cole	225

Dennis Davis	174
E. E. Rohde	129
Larry M. Savage	53
Lewis R. Shelton	24
Daniel M. York	28

Since there was no election a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	2,753
Needed to elect	1,836
R. Earl Book	71
Robert L. Brandt	2,356
Wesley J. Bransford	15
Warren D. Bullock	20
Frank E. Cole	171
Dennis Davis	83
E. E. Rohde	24
Larry M. Savage	6
Lewis R. Shelton	1
Daniel M. York	6

Having noted that Robert L. Brandt has received well over the two-thirds vote required for an election, the chairman declared him to be reelected executive presbyter from the Northwest Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Southwest Area

Warren McPherson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Southwest Area:

Total votes cast	2,290
Needed to elect	1,527
Glen D. Cole	929
Daniel DeLeon	23
Richard Dresselhaus	285
Virgil L. Jones	12
Darrel D. Madsen	18
Jesse Miranda	79
T. Ray Rachels	114
Roy Sapp	45
Robert A. Sites	101
William O. Vickery	370
Bobby J. Wilson	314

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	2,492
Needed to elect	1,662

Glen D. Cole	1,551
Daniel DeLeon	6
Richard Dresselhaus	208
Virgil L. Jones	0
Darrel D. Madsen	1
Jesse Miranda	35
T. Ray Rachels	27
Roy Sapp	6
Robert A. Sites	37
William O. Vickery	322
Bobby J. Wilson	299

Since there was no election, a third elective ballot was cast.

Warren McPherson gave the following report on the third elective ballot:

Total votes cast	2,404
Needed to elect	1,603
Glen D. Cole	1,670
Daniel DeLeon	6
Richard Dresselhaus	162
Virgil L. Jones	0
Darrel D. Madsen	3
Jesse Miranda	20
T. Ray Rachels	13
Roy Sapp	9
Robert A. Sites	15
William O. Vickery	311
Bobby J. Wilson	195

The chairman, noting that Glen D. Cole received over the two-thirds vote required, declared him reelected on the third elective ballot.

Election of Executive Presbyter—North Central Area

Warren McPherson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the North Central Area:

Total votes cast	2,286
Needed to elect	1,524
David A. Argue	323
Marcus Bakke	72
Ted Heaston	49
Omer V. Kallevig	67
Robert L. Nazarenes	51
David L. Nelson	78
Samuel C. Peterson	96
Herman H. Rohde	1,147
Clarence St. John	76
Manuel Shoults	138
Ronald J. Traub	59

Allan Ullestad	98
Norman E. Wenig	32

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	2,417
Needed to elect	1,612
David W. Argue	245
Marcus Bakke	8
Ted Heaston	7
Omer V. Kallevig	12
Robert L. Nazarenus	6
David L. Nelson	11
Samuel C. Peterson	27
Herman H. Rohde	2,030
Clarence St. John	13
Manuel Shoults	35
Ronald J. Traub	8
Allan Ullestad	13
Norman E. Wenig	2

Since Herman H. Rohde had received in excess of the two-thirds vote required, he was declared reelected as executive presbyter from the North Central Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—South Central Area

Warren McPherson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the South Central Area:

Total votes cast	2,387
Needed to elect	1,592
E. R. Anderson	42
Earl J. Banning	164
James K. Bridges	350
Howard Burroughs	28
H. Franklin Cargill	23
Gale Cisneros	50
R. Kenneth George	46
Thomas D. Lakey	24
Paul Lowenberg	1,117
Samuel P. Molina	22
Derald Musgrove	152
Armon Newburn	302
Paul W. Savage	37
Robert G. Slaton	30

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	2,168
Needed to elect	1,446
E. R. Anderson	5
Earl J. Banning	46
James K. Bridges	281
Howard Burroughs	10
H. Franklin Cargill	3
Gale Cisneros	7
R. Kenneth George	10
Thomas D. Lakey	1
Paul Lowenberg	1,576
Samuel P. Molina	3
Derald Musgrove	27
Armon Newburn	189
Paul W. Savage	6
Robert G. Slaton	4

Since Paul Lowenberg had received in excess of the two-thirds vote required, he was declared reelected as executive presbyter from the South Central Area.

Election of Executive Presbytery—Great Lakes Area

Warren McPherson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area:

Total votes cast	2,455
Needed to elect	1,637
James D. Biram	22
Isaac Troy Boggs	10
Jack M. Carnley	9
Robert D. Crabtree	221
Charles E. Crank	241
Daniel B. Enriquez	21
Charles E. Hackett	35
William F. Leach	47
Ignacio Marrero	5
Ernest J. Moen	139
Hugh H. Rosenberg	74
David D. Rueb	6
Robert K. Schmidgall	1,574
Fred Smolchuck, Sr.	29
Irvin G. Steiding	22

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,941
Needed to elect	1,294
James D. Biram	2
Isaac Troy Boggs	2
Jack M. Carnley	3
Robert D. Crabtree	52
Charles E. Crank	67
Daniel B. Enriquez	0
Charles E. Hackett	5
William F. Leach	9
Ignacio Marrero	0
Ernest J. Moen	14
Hugh H. Rosenberg	12
David D. Rueb	1
Robert K. Schmidgall	1,765
Fred Smolchuck, Sr.	9

Since Robert K. Schmidgall had received in excess of the two-thirds vote required, he was declared reelected as executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Gulf Area

Warren McPherson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Gulf Area.

Total votes cast	2,361
Needed to elect	1,574
James D. Brown	391
Walter L. Davis	64
James E. Hamill	733
Cecil T. Janway	94
Bobby L. Johnson	99
J. D. Middlebrook	146
W. Nelson Sachs	83
Philip Wannenmacher	646
E. Joe Wilmoth	69
Gerald D. Wilson	36

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,662
Needed to elect	1,108
James D. Brown	164
Walter L. Davis	4
James E. Hamill	553
Cecil T. Janway	5
Bobby L. Johnson	25

J. D. Middlebrook	35
W. Nelson Sachs	3
Philip Wannenmacher	866
E. Joe Wilmoth	4
Gerald D. Wilson	3

Since there was no election, a third elective ballot was cast.

Warren McPherson gave the following report of the third elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Gulf Area:

Total votes cast	2,448
Needed to elect	1,632
James D. Brown	129
Walter L. Davis	7
James E. Hamill	382
Cecil T. Janway	9
Bobby L. Johnson	19
J. D. Middlebrook	19
W. Nelson Sachs	4
Philip Wannenmacher	1,868
E. Joe Wilmoth	4
Gerald D. Wilson	7

Having noted that Philip Wannenmacher had received well over the two-thirds vote required for an election, the chairman declared him to be elected executive presbyter from the Gulf Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Northeast Area

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Northeast Area:

Total votes cast	2,428
Needed to elect	1,619
Almon M. Bartholomew	1,327
Joseph M. Beretta	89
Edward B. Berkey	102
Philip Bongiorno	281
Adolfo Carrion	48
Hugh M. Corey	89
D. Wendel Cover	112
Samuel R. DiTrollo	43
Peter L. Miller	30
James E. Morris	68
John J. Paproski	92
Ronald E. Piedmonte	60
Howard V. Spruill	87

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the second elective ballot for executive presbyter from the Northeast Area:

Total votes cast	1,175
Needed to elect	783
Almon M. Bartholomew	1,036
Joseph M. Beretta	8
Edward B. Berkey	12
Philip Bongiorno	79
Adolfo Carrion	6
Hugh M. Corey	5
D. Wendel Cover	13
Samuel R. DiTrollo	4
Peter L. Miller	1
James E. Morris	1
John J. Paproski	3
Ronald E. Piedmonte	2
Howard V. Spruill	5

Since Almon M. Bartholomew had received in excess of the two-thirds vote required, he was declared reelected as executive presbyter from the Northeast Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Southeast Area

Warren McPherson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Southeast Area:

Total votes cast	2,449
Needed to elect	1,632
Leslie M. Addison	84
Charles H. Cookman	269
Robert J. Gatlin	59
J. Foy Johnson	1,382
E. Hollis Kelley	20
Vaudie V. Lambert	265
Glyn Lowery, Jr.	113
Donald W. Lunsford	164
Jim R. Swilley	30
L. Tom Whidden, Jr.	63

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	2,079
Needed to elect	1,386
Leslie M. Addison	7
Charles H. Cookman	131
Robert J. Gatlin	16
J. Foy Johnson	1,711

E. Hollie Kelley	3
Vaudie V. Lambert	127
Glyn Lowery, Jr.	20
Donald W. Lunsford	33
Jim R. Swilley	8
L. Tom Whidden, Jr.	17

The chairman, noting that J. Foy Johnson received well over the two-thirds vote required, declared him reelected as executive presbyter from the Southeast Area on the second elective ballot.

Resolution 1. Division of Christian Education Restructure

George O. Wood, chairman of the Resolutions Committee read Resolution 1, entitled, "Division of Christian Education Restructure," and indicated two corrections on page 6, line 6 changing "19" to "18," and line 15 changing "national" to "department," as follows:

WHEREAS, In response to the request of the Executive Presbytery and the General Council, extensive study has been given to the possible restructure of the Division of Christian Education and the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, There is strong desire to bring the Church School Literature Department into close working relationship with the Sunday School Department and to strengthen our efforts as a church in lay education in support of the goals of the Decade of Harvest; and

WHEREAS, The recommended new structure has been approved by the Executive Presbytery after detailed conference with the Division of Christian Education Study Committee and the goal of restructure has been approved in principle by the General Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, The General Council requested that any enabling legislation necessary to the implementation of the committee recommendations be brought to the General Council; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XII, Division of Christian Education (pages 148-151, 1987 General Council Minutes), be substituted in its entirety as follows:

ARTICLE XII. DIVISION OF EDUCATION

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

a. Sphere of authority. There shall be a Division of Education which shall have general oversight over the Church School Education Department, the Church School Curriculum and Literature Department, and the Higher Education Department.

b. Purpose. The purpose of the division is to fulfill the Great Commission—which mandates reaching and winning the lost and teaching and training for life and service through: (1) promoting and development of Sunday schools, Christian schools (K-12), and lay education at the local church level; (2) providing curricular materials and services for Sunday

school, Christian schools (K-12), and adult lay education; and (3) guiding in the development of a higher education system and structure; and in its sphere of activity seeking to fulfill the threefold mission of the Assemblies of God.

Section 2. Government and Organization

a. Executive director. The Executive Presbytery shall elect an executive director subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Division of Education.

b. Board of Education. There shall be a Board of Education which shall consist of 18 members to be constituted as follows: The executive director of the Division of Education who shall serve as chairman, an executive presbyter, four pastors of demonstrated support for education (representative of churches of 0-99, 100-299, 300-499, and 500-plus, regionally distributed if possible), two Assemblies of God lay persons (knowledgeable of college affairs but not associated with internal administration of any Assemblies of God college), two district superintendents and two district Christian education directors (providing some regional distribution), two presidents of endorsed Assemblies of God colleges, the department secretaries and editor in chief within the division, and the general superintendent (ex officio). The chairperson shall designate the secretary of the board.

(1) Selection of board. Those members of the Board of Education not serving by virtue of office shall be selected as follows: The executive presbyter shall be selected by the Executive Presbytery; the remaining members shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and ratified by the General Presbytery. Effort shall be made to provide general geographical distribution in these nominations. The presidents shall be nominated on a rotating basis with at least 2 years elapsing before a president can be returned to the board.

(2) Terms of office. The members of the Board of Education who do not serve by virtue of office shall serve for terms of 3 years or until their successors qualify. Terms shall be so arranged that approximately one third of the terms expire each year. Members may be appointed for one succeeding term, except the presidents who may serve only a single 3-year term and will then be replaced.

(3) Authority and amenability. The government and work of the Division of Education shall be vested in and committed to the Board of Education. It shall conduct its own meetings semiannually or as occasion may require. The presidents of the endorsed colleges may be invited to the meetings of the Board of Education with the privilege of the floor but without the privilege of voting. The board shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery. The authority of the Board of Education shall include:

(a) Supervising the activities of the Division of Education and

the departments within it as well as the committees functioning under it in fulfilling the divisional and departmental missions.

(b) Reviewing annually the endorsement of Assemblies of God postsecondary schools on the basis of endorsement criteria developed by the Board of Education and approved by the Executive Presbytery, and take appropriate action with regard to the renewal or nonrenewal of such endorsement as recommended by a subcommittee which the board shall establish for this purpose.

(c) Reviewing for approval or disapproval application for the opening of any institution of higher education sponsored by a credentialed minister, a local church, a district, or a region within the Assemblies of God.

(d) Developing the Assemblies of God higher education system and structure through advice and counsel, including the right to recommend the closing or merging of Assemblies of God postsecondary schools, as determined by the needs of the Fellowship.

Section 3. Church School Curriculum and Literature Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) There shall be a Church School Curriculum and Literature Department which shall be charged with the responsibility of preparing all literature, curriculum, and educational materials provided by The General Council of the Assemblies of God for Sunday schools, Christian schools (K-12), and adult lay education in the local church.

(2) The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) Responsibility of Executive Presbytery. The Executive Presbytery shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial and curricular content of all publications and periodicals within the guidelines set by the policy-making bodies.

(2) Editor in chief. There shall be an editor in chief who shall serve under the executive director of the Division of Education in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(3) Approval for budget changes. New materials or changes in style or format which affect the budget of the Gospel Publishing House must have the approval of the Board of Publication before being initiated.

(4) Committee on Church School Curriculum and Literature. There shall be a committee on Church School Curriculum and Literature which shall consist of a chairperson, headquarters curriculum coordinator, two persons from the Church School Curriculum and Literature Department representing Sunday schools and Christian schools, one local church Christian Education director, and a cur-

riculum specialist from the Association of Assemblies of God Christian Schools. The national secretary of the Church School Education Department shall serve by virtue of office. The editor in chief of the Church School Curriculum and Literature Department shall be a member by virtue of office and shall serve as resource person and secretary to the committee. The executive director of the division shall be an ex officio member. Chairperson and members not serving by virtue of office shall be nominated by the Board of Education and appointed by the Executive Presbytery. They shall serve 2-year terms and shall be eligible for reappointment.

(5) Committee purpose. Working under the Board of Education, the committee shall counsel and advise the department in the development of programs and services consistent with the educational mandate of the church. The committee shall report to the Board of Education through the committee chair.

Section 4. Church School Education Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) There shall be a Church School Education Department which shall have the responsibility of encouraging and promoting the development of Sunday schools, Christian schools (K-12), and local church adult lay education.

(2) The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

(3) The functions of the Church School Education Department further shall include:

(a) Assisting districts and local churches in setting up effective programs in Sunday school, Christian school (K-12), adult lay education, and other educational activities of the local church, such as vacation Bible school.

(b) Promoting and conducting church school conventions on a national and regional basis.

(c) Encouraging and conducting training programs for teachers and workers.

(d) Producing manuals, handbooks, brochures, and literature of a promotional nature.

b. Government and organization

(1) Department secretary. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the executive director of the Division of Education.

(2) Committee on Church School Education. There shall be a Committee on Church School Education which shall consist of a chairperson, three district Christian education directors not serving on the Board of Education or the Church School Curriculum and Literature Committee, two persons from the Church School Edu-

cation Department representing the areas of Sunday schools and Christian schools, and one local church Christian Education director. The president of the Association of Assemblies of God Christian Schools shall be asked to serve while in office. The editor in chief of Church School Curriculum and Literature shall serve by virtue of office. The secretary of the Church School Education Department shall be a member by virtue of office and shall serve as resource person and secretary to the committee. The executive director of the division shall be an ex officio member. Chairperson and members not serving by virtue of office shall be nominated by the Board of Education and appointed by the Executive Presbytery. They shall serve 2-year terms and shall be eligible for reappointment.

(3) Committee purpose. Working under the Board of Education, the committee shall counsel and advise the department in the development of programs and services consistent with the mandate of the church as the department seeks to fulfill its mission. The committee shall report to the Board of Education through the committee chair.

c. Official publication. The *Sunday School Counselor* shall be recognized as an official publication of the Church School Education Department.

d. District organization(s)

(1) Provision shall be made for a district Church School Education Department in each district of the Assemblies of God. The purpose shall be:

(a) To coordinate national, district, sectional, and local efforts for Sunday school, Christian school (K-12), and adult lay education efficiency, growth, and development.

(b) To encourage every Sunday school in the district to establish written operational policies based on Directions—For the Decade of Harvest.

(c) To promote Sunday school, church school, and adult lay education efficiency through seminars, tours, conventions, or by any other acceptable means.

(2) There may be a district church school education director. He shall be chosen in keeping with the district constitution and bylaws.

(3) There may be a district constitution and bylaws which shall be presented to the district council for approval.

(4) Time may be given throughout the year for the advancement of all phases of the district and national church school education calendar.

Section 5. Higher Education Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) There shall be a Higher Education Department which shall have as its purpose working toward and facilitating the development

of a coordinated system of higher education in the Assemblies of God endorsed by the Board of Education and comprised of soundly conceived, strong institutions which are equal in status before the Board of Education and equal in support by the entire Fellowship. The Board of Education working through the department may encourage the taking of intermediate steps on a regional or cross-regional basis to achieve this general objective. The department shall be responsible for supervising and promoting those education activities of the Assemblies of God which do not usually occur as part of the congregational life of the local church or which have not been constitutionally assigned to other departments of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Such promotion and supervision shall not infringe upon the sovereignty of the various districts and churches. This responsibility shall include junior colleges, senior colleges, Bible institutes, Bible colleges, graduate schools, and correspondence schools.

(2) The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) Department secretary. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the executive director of the Division of Education.

(2) Committee on Higher Education. There shall be a committee on higher education which shall consist of the presidents of all endorsed Assemblies of God postsecondary institutions one of whom shall serve as chairperson. The secretary of the Higher Education Department shall be a member by virtue of office and shall serve as resource person and secretary to the Committee. The executive director of the division shall be an ex officio member. The Executive Presbytery shall designate the chairperson. The committee shall report to the Board of Education through the chairperson.

c. Duties and functions. It shall be the responsibility of the Higher Education Department to seek to maintain a high level of spirituality in all the schools and to guard against any departure from the doctrines set forth in our Statement of Fundamental Truths. This department shall also encourage educational and administrative efficiency in the various schools.

It shall also be responsible to stimulate and encourage interest in Christian higher education and to promote enrollment at the various Assemblies of God schools. It shall likewise effect a program for securing funds from foundations and other sources and from the denomination as a whole on behalf of the education program.

It shall be the duty of the Higher Education Department to conduct a continuous study of the educational institutions and services of the

Assemblies of God with the view of their increased effectiveness. It shall seek to correlate all educational efforts into a unified program. To this end, it shall have the following specific rights and functions:

(1) New schools. It may offer guidance and counsel in the opening of new schools and may take the initiative in guiding and encouraging the establishment of such schools.

(2) Expansion of school services. It may recommend the broadening of the scope of individual school services.

(3) Standard of endorsement. It may erect standards to which all schools of the Assemblies of God shall be required to conform in order to receive endorsement. These standards may include the qualifications of the faculty and staff; the required subjects of the curriculum; the length of class periods, semesters, and terms; the requirements for admission and for graduation; and the general regulations of school life.

(4) General service to all schools. The Higher Education Department shall serve the various schools of the Assemblies of God as a faculty placement bureau. It may supply to school staffs and faculties ideas and suggestions for more efficient operation and may publish an interschool periodical to this end. It may publish an educational directory. It may also promote and conduct faculty seminars.

d. Rights and prerogatives

(1) Certificates of endorsement. The Higher Education Department shall issue certificates of endorsement to postsecondary schools meeting the standards for endorsement established by the Board of Education. Such certificates shall be authorized by the Board of Education after careful evaluation of said schools, with special consideration given to responsiveness to the church's mission, and shall be valid for 1 to 5 years, at the discretion of the Board of Education. No postsecondary school operated by or patronized by members of the Assemblies of God shall be recognized as approved unless or until it conforms to the standards established by the Board of Education and has been officially approved by the board.

(2) Supervision of funds. It shall be the prerogative of the Higher Education Department to disburse and apportion whatever funds shall come into its possession to the various education institutions of the Assemblies of God in that way which it shall consider equitable and right.

(3) Equality of endorsed schools. In the discharge of its duties and functions and the exercise of its rights and prerogatives, the Higher Education Department shall consider all endorsed Assemblies of God schools as on an equal basis, regardless of origin, ownership, or control. All schools which are endorsed by the Higher Education Department shall enjoy equal rights of publicity and emphasis in

Assemblies of God publications and in the promotional work of the Higher Education Department.

(4) Textbooks. It shall also be the prerogative of the Higher Education Department to seek to provide our own textbooks for our schools.

(5) Correspondence courses, institutes, and seminars. It shall be the prerogative of the Higher Education Department to prepare reading and correspondence courses and to promote short, intensive ministers institutes and seminars for the development of the ministries of those who have been unable to attend our schools and for the ministers of the Assemblies of God in general.

Further be it

RESOLVED, In order to effect transition that the present Board of Education be declared dissolved effective December 1, 1989, and its present policies and procedures as well as unfinished business be transmitted to the new Board of Education, and that the Executive Presbytery be empowered to appoint the new Board of Education effective December 1, 1989, in keeping with the guidelines of this new bylaw, and that the Executive Presbytery be encouraged to consider members of the present Board of Education among prospects for appointment of the new Board of Education, and that it be understood that the Executive Presbytery may make the initial appointments of the Board of Education for 1 year without General Presbytery approval, whereupon the full new bylaw provision would apply, and be it further

RESOLVED, That Article XIII, Division of Church Ministries, paragraph a, (General Council Bylaws page 151), be amended by deleting the term "Sunday school") and Article XIII, Section 3, of the General Council Bylaws (page 153) be deleted in its entirety, and that the remaining sections of the article be renumbered with Section 4 becoming Section 3 and Section 5 becoming Section 4.

A motion prevailed that Resolution 1 be considered seriatim.

It was moved and seconded that Section 1 be adopted.

It was moved and seconded to amend Section 1, page 5 as follows: on line 19, add "Christian" to title; on line 22 strike the words "Church School Education"; on line 23 strike the first word "Department"; on line 27 delete "(1) promoting the development"; and on line 28 insert "day" between Christian schools. Following a time of discussion the amendment was voted on and was lost.

A question arose regarding what would happen if this section is adopted and other sections are not. It was explained that when all sections have been dealt with the entire document will be presented for action.

The motion to adopt Section 1 was voted on and declared carried.

It was moved and seconded to adopt Section 2

Various speakers centered attention upon the area dealing with the Board of Education. Questions arose relative to the authority that this

would lend to this board, especially as to merging and closing of institutions.

A motion prevailed to substitute the word "national" for the word, "executive," as used in Section 2, paragraph a, lines 2 and 3, and that the same be done wherever it is used throughout Resolution 1.

It was moved and seconded to amend Section 2 by deleting lines 17 through 25 on page 7, paragraphs (c) and (d).

Recess

The meeting recessed at 5 p.m. Don Argue, president of North Central Bible College, closed in prayer.

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICE—AUGUST 10

The Thursday evening service was under the direction of Robert Schmidgall, executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area. Raymond H. Hudson, former general treasurer, gave the Scripture reading from Acts 1:9-11 and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. The congregational singing was led by Paul Ferrin. Herb Johnson, professor of piano at King's College, Briarcliff Manor, New York, served at the piano. Randy Wright, senior editor in the Music Department of the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Missouri, served at the electric piano. Marty Gould, minister of music, Calvary Temple, Springfield, Missouri, was at the organ. The offering appeal was made by Glen Cole, executive presbyter from the Southwest Area. The offertory was provided by an orchestra directed by Eddie Hawks. Special music was provided by the Southside Tabernacle Choir, Chicago, Illinois, under the direction of Abraham Cook.

Spencer Jones, pastor of Southside Tabernacle Assembly of God, Chicago, Illinois, was the speaker for the service which had the theme of the second coming of Christ. He urged listeners to "live as though Jesus died yesterday, arose today, and is coming tomorrow."

FRIDAY MORNING—AUGUST 11

The Friday morning session began with a time of prayer and praise led by J. Robert Ashcroft at 9:15 a.m. The following songs were sung: "This Is the Day," "To God Be the Glory," and "Amen, Amen." Lena Mae Leach and Dixie Hackett served at the piano and organ respectively.

The offering appeal was made by Philip Bongiorno, superintendent of the Pennsylvania-Delaware District. Lena Mae Leach, minister of music, Springfield, Virginia, played a piano solo for the offertory.

Business Session

The business session was called to order at 10:10 a.m. Brother Carlson asked William Behr, assistant superintendent of the New York District, to lead in prayer for God's guidance during the business session this morning.

Roster Committee Report

Fred Leader gave the following report of the Roster Committee as of 10 a.m., Friday, August 11:

Ordained ministers	4,760	
Delegates	<u>1,332</u>	
Voting constituency		6,092
Licensed ministers	699	
Visitors	<u>11,824</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>12,523</u>
Total registration		18,615

A motion prevailed to receive this progress report.

Committee Report on the Division of Christian Education, continued

The chairman indicated that the motion before the house at the time of recess was to adopt Section 2 of Resolution 1, and that an amendment has been made and seconded that paragraphs (c) and (d) on page 7, lines 17 to 25, be deleted.

A number of speakers spoke both for and against the amendment to delete. It was felt that it would be in error to grant the Board of Education the right to approve or disapprove application for the opening of any institution of higher education. However, on the other hand it was felt that our denomination needs accountability, especially foreseeing the future of great growth.

Following a time of lengthy debate, a motion prevailed to limit debate to 2 minutes for each speaker on this and all subsequent matters.

The motion to amend was voted on and declared lost.

A motion was made to reconsider the action taken yesterday concerning the changing of the title of the director of the Division of Christian Education. The maker of the motion indicated that he had voted against the amendment. The chairman ruled that he would not be allowed to offer a motion to reconsider.

A motion was made and seconded to amend Section 2, paragraph b (c), page 7, line 17, by the addition of the words, "with the cooperation of the local district's elected officials," following the word, "Reviewing."

A motion was made and seconded that the report as well as the enabling resolutions be referred back to the committee with a request that the Executive Presbytery double the size of the committee with the additional members being selected from the General Presbytery, with instructions that the committee report to the 1990 session of the General Presbytery and subsequently to the 1991 General Council, and further that said report be considered by this body only after approval of a majority vote of the

General Presbytery. The motion to refer was voted on and declared carried.

The chairman expressed deep appreciation for the tremendous amount of work that the committee had done on this report.

Resolution 2. General Council Schools Unification

George Wood indicated that Resolution 2 is off the docket due to the previous action to refer. Resolution 2 as printed follows:

WHEREAS, In response to the request of the Executive Presbytery and the General Council, extensive study has been given to the Division of Christian Education and related areas; and

WHEREAS, This request subsequently included looking "at the four Springfield schools with the idea of bringing them together into a university;" and

WHEREAS, This possibility has been studied by the Division of Christian Education Study Committee from many perspectives and a series of reports has been submitted to the Executive Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, A "drift" report was presented to the General Presbytery in its 1988 annual session with discussion following and input being given to the committee and subsequent to this a written survey was mailed from the general superintendent's office to the General Presbytery regarding seven alternatives for structuring the General Council schools in Springfield; and

WHEREAS, The written response to this survey has shown a strong desire for unifying the schools in Springfield in some way (with 71 percent of the respondents identifying the university idea as their first to third choice and no more than 6 percent identifying leaving the schools as they are as their first choice and 18 percent as their first to third choice); and

WHEREAS, Three particular alternatives identified in the committee report which would unify the schools in slightly different ways were highly favored by the respondents; and

WHEREAS, A Study/Planning Commission pertaining in unification has been proposed as a useful means for continuing the study in a deliberate way in close cooperation with the Executive and General Presbyteries as well as the General Council itself, and the committee has highly recommended that this Study/Planning Commission be authorized; and

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery has requested the three highly favored alternatives be presented to the General Council; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council in session authorize the Executive Presbytery to appoint a University Study/Planning Commission with the understanding that it will work under the direction of the Executive Presbytery and report to it, and that its work will be

reported to the General Presbytery and General Council, and that further guidance and direction will be sought from both the General Presbytery and the General Council; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the delegates of this General Council be given opportunity to express their preferences regarding the three preferred alternatives on a form to be provided which can be tabulated easily with the response then serving as guidance to the Executive Presbytery.

**Resolution 4. Honorary General Presbyter
James C. Ellis**

George Wood read Resolution 4 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, James C. Ellis has served the Kentucky District Council of the Assemblies of God for 21 years in district leadership as both district secretary and district superintendent until the present; and

WHEREAS, He has served as general presbyter during these 21 years and has represented well our Fellowship, giving direction to one of the leading districts in opening new churches; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution has made provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That James C. Ellis be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter. The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 5. Honorary General Presbyter
Raymond H. Hudson**

George Wood read Resolution 5 as follows, and moved its adoption.

WHEREAS, Raymond H. Hudson has served the New Mexico District as an ordained minister since 1945; and

WHEREAS, Thirteen years of that ministry was faithfully given in service as district superintendent, by virtue of which he was a general presbyter; and

WHEREAS, He retained his ordination with his home district, the New Mexico District Council, while serving at the national headquarters of the Assemblies of God for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, For 15 of those 20 years in Springfield, he served as general treasurer, by virtue of which he was an executive and general presbyter; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution has made provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Raymond H. Hudson be elected by this General

Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 6. Honorary General Presbyter
F. L. Langley**

George Wood read Resolution 6 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, F. L. Langley has served as a member of the General Presbytery for 24 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served our Fellowship and the Mississippi District Council as pastor, presbyter, assistant district superintendent, and as district superintendent for 23 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served on various committees and boards representing many of the General Council departments and our Assemblies of God colleges; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution has made provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That F. L. Langley be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter. The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 7. Honorary General Presbyter
John J. Paproski**

George Wood read Resolution 7 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, John J. Paproski has served the New Jersey District Council with distinction as superintendent for 16 years, as well as other elected offices; and

WHEREAS, He has been a member of the General Presbytery for 23 years, and has also served on the national Education Committee and Finance Committee; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution has made provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That John J. Paproski be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 8. Honorary General Presbyter
E. Ray Schulz**

George Wood read Resolution 8 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, E. Ray Schulz has faithfully served the Assemblies of

God as a minister for the past 50 years, having been licensed in 1939 and ordained in 1942; and

WHEREAS, He has ministered, held offices, and pastored churches in Alabama, Mississippi, and Peninsular Florida, having served as a district youth director, district Sunday school director, district treasurer, and for more than 21 years as district secretary; and

WHEREAS, He has served on the General Presbytery for over 21 years; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution has made provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That E. Ray Schulz be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 12 noon to reconvene at 2 p.m. with prayer by Curtis Ringness, Highland, California.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 11

Paul Ferrin opened the afternoon session by leading in singing "I'm Praising the Lord," and "Thy Loving-kindness." Johnny Garrison, pastor at West Side Assembly of God, Marion, Indiana, and Richard B. Messenger, pastor of East Liberty Assembly of God, Akron, Ohio, served at the piano and organ, respectively. Ronald McManus, pastor of First Assembly of God, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, led in prayer asking the Lord's blessing upon the afternoon business session.

Dr. Fred Allen, director of Church Relations for American Bible Society, was introduced to bring greetings from the American Bible Society. He expressed appreciation to the Assemblies of God for its participation in the work of the American Bible Society.

Business Session

The chairman called the afternoon business session to order at 2:25 p.m.

Roster Committee Report

Elmer Kirschman gave the following Roster Committee report as of 2 p.m., Friday, August 11:

Ordained	4,775
Delegates	<u>1,334</u>
Voting constituency	6,109
Licensed	709
Visitors	<u>12,017</u>
Nonvoting constituency	<u>12,726</u>
Total registration	18,835

A motion prevailed to accept the report of the Roster Committee.

Resolution 26. Honorary General Presbyter

E. E. Rohde

George Wood read Resolution 26 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, E. E. Rohde has served The General Council of the Assemblies of God as a member of the General Presbytery for 19 years (1970-89) from the Montana District Council; and

WHEREAS, He has served The General Council of the Assemblies of God as a member of the General Presbytery for 5 years (1961-66) from the Nebraska District Council—thus bringing his years on the General Presbytery to a combined total of 24; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph 3, of the General Council Constitution has made provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That E. E. Rohde be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter. The motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution 27. Honorary General Presbyter

George Rohde

George Wood read Resolution 27 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, George Rohde has served the North Dakota District with distinction for 15 years; and

WHEREAS, He also served the South Dakota District 5 years as its secretary-treasurer; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution has made provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That George Rohde be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 28. Honorary General Presbyter
Aaron M. Wall**

George Wood read Resolution 28 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Aaron M. Wall has served diligently, effectively, and with distinction on the General Presbytery of the Assemblies of God for 23 years; and

WHEREAS, He has also served the Georgia District Council with great distinction as its superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution has made provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Aaron Wall be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter. The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 29. Honorary General Presbyter
Merle J. Harris**

George Wood read Resolution 29 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Merle J. Harris has served faithfully as a minister of the Assemblies of God for the past 42 years, having been licensed in 1947 and ordained in 1950; and

WHEREAS, He has ministered and pastored churches in Nebraska and Arkansas, and has served the Arkansas District for 37 years as a district youth director, sectional presbyter, and executive presbyter; and

WHEREAS, He has served as administrator of Hillcrest Children's Home, the national children's home of the Assemblies of God, and has served as interim president of Southwestern Assemblies of God College; and

WHEREAS, He served more than 11 years as assistant district superintendent, and served with distinction as district superintendent for more than 13 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served more than 24 years on the General Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution has made provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Merle J. Harris be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 30. Honorary General Presbyter
J. Philip Hogan**

George Wood read Resolution 30 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, J. Philip Hogan has served as a pastor, missionary, and evangelist; and

WHEREAS, He has served with great distinction as the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions from 1959-89; and

WHEREAS, The gospel of Christ has been greatly extended, under his leadership, to the nations of the earth; and

WHEREAS, He has given a total of 54 years of faithful service to the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution has made provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That J. Philip Hogan be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 35. Resolution To Honor
Raymond H. Hudson**

George Wood read Resolution 35 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Raymond H. Hudson served as general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God since 1973; and

WHEREAS, He is responsible for developing the Church Builders Plan which resulted in over \$42 million being invested in the work of the Lord; and

WHEREAS, He has served in district leadership with the New Mexico District Council for 13 years; and

WHEREAS, Brother Hudson's leadership has been characterized by integrity, commitment to Christ and His kingdom, and to the Assemblies of God; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this 43rd General Council express deep appreciation to Raymond H. Hudson for his exemplary service to God, to this fellowship, and to the office of the general treasurer.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 36. Resolution To Honor
J. Philip Hogan**

George Wood read Resolution 36 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, J. Philip Hogan has served the Division of Foreign Missions since 1945; and

WHEREAS, He has served as executive director of the division for the last 30 years, and

WHEREAS, He is respected worldwide as a missionary statesman, and is recognized as a leading missiologist of our time whose wise counsel is sought by leaders of many evangelical missions organizations; and

WHEREAS, Under his leadership the Division of Foreign Missions has become the largest evangelical enterprise in the world, numbering 22 million adherents joined to fraternal organizations in 120 countries of the world; and

WHEREAS, Brother Hogan's ministry has been faithfully supported by his wife, Virginia, who has shared with him the care of the missionary family, accompanying him in traveling thousands of miles each year to encourage and inspire missionaries on the field; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this 43rd General Council express deep appreciation to J. Philip Hogan and his wife Virginia for their exemplary service to God, to this Fellowship, and to a lost world.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution 9. Abortion—Civil Disobedience

George Wood read Resolution 9. It was moved and seconded that Resolution 9 be adopted.

It was moved and seconded to amend line 13 by substituting the words "generally supportive" for the words "not disapprove," and line 16 by substituting the word "murder" for the word "killing." The motion was voted on and lost.

A time of discussion followed when a number of delegates spoke, both in favor and in opposition to the resolution. It was noted that the resolution seeks to protect the right for ministers to exercise their action without recrimination from this Fellowship. Upon inquiry regarding whether or not any kind of threat of credentials recrimination has ever happened, it was established that there were no known instances. In light of the preceding answer, it was moved and seconded to table the resolution. The motion was lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 9 was voted on and declared carried. A division of the house was called for and a count was made as follows: 1,309 affirmative and 774 negative. The motion was declared carried.

The resolution as adopted, without the preamble, is as follows:

RESOLVED, That the General Council shall not disapprove of ministers and members who in clear conscience and right attitude engage in acts of intervention, which are nonviolent and peaceful acts of civil disobedience, to prevent the killing of the unborn.

At a later point in this session, an expression was made of great concern that the interpretation of Resolution 9 as adopted was not to approve civil disobedience as such, but that it deals with a minister's credentials. Caution was expressed that anyone leaving here might state that we approve

civil disobedience which would do the Assemblies of God a great disservice.

A plea was also made as to the sensitivity of the issue as far as our Movement in foreign lands is concerned.

Procedure for bringing this back to the body for consideration again was clarified and a motion prevailed to reconsider Resolution 9.

A motion prevailed to refer Resolution 9 to a small committee to tool out a reworded resolution to be presented in a later session.

The chairman requested the following persons to serve on this committee and to meet backstage at 7 p.m.: William O. Vickery, chairman, J. Philip Hogan, Paul Schenck, Ralph Cimino, Ronald Thorington, Benjamin Crandall, and Richard Hammar, legal counselor as consultant.

Resolution 10. Teen Challenge Department

George Wood read Resolution 10 and moved its adoption.

A motion prevailed to amend line 5, page 27, by substituting the word "should" for "shall," and adding "a minimum of" before "\$50," so the line will read, "(1) Teen Challenge centers should contribute a minimum of \$50.)"

It was moved and seconded to delete from page 26, lines 32-33 the sentence which reads, "Further the Teen Challenge Department will oversee the national certification of every local center." The motion to amend by deletion was voted upon and lost.

Clarification was asked for relative to line 33, page 25, with regard to the eight other ministers on the Home Missions Board. It was pointed out that this did not mean eight persons from each area, but that one from each of the eight areas will serve. It was suggested that the words, "with one" be added for clarification.

It was moved and seconded to amend lines 10 and 11, on page 26 by adding the words "at least" on line 10 before "12," so that it would read, "at least 12 of whom shall be Spirit-filled," and substitute the word "may" for "shall," on line 11, so that it will read, "and six of whom may be." Following discussion the motion was voted on and declared lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 10 as amended was carried.

Resolution 10 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, Teen Challenge ministries for 15 years have operated under the Intercultural Ministries Department with great effectiveness, and are presently operating 110 centers in the United States and Puerto Rico; and

WHEREAS, The drug abuse problem has risen to epidemic proportions throughout the United States, and Teen Challenge continues to conquer this problem with outstanding results, earning national recognition as one of the most successful drug rehabilitation programs for youth and young adults; and

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery acted to upgrade Teen Challenge to full departmental status in July of 1988; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XVI, Division of Home Missions, Section 1, paragraph c. Departments, be amended by adding a new subparagraph (5) Teen Challenge Department. The section would then read:

c. Departments. The work of the division shall include five major departments:

- (1) New Church Evangelism Department
- (2) Intercultural Ministries Department
- (3) Chaplaincy Department
- (4) College Ministries Department
- (5) Teen Challenge Department

Further be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XVI, Section 2, paragraph b, be amended by adding the phrase "Teen Challenge Department" so that the section will read:

b. Home Missions Board. The New Church Evangelism Department, the College Ministries Department, the Intercultural Ministries Department, and the Teen Challenge Department shall be under the supervision of a Home Missions Board. It shall consist of the national director, one member of the Board of Administration, two nonresident members of the Executive Presbytery, and eight other ministers, with one selected from each of the eight established geographical areas of the Fellowship. Four of the national board members shall be selected from among those district officials who have assigned to them the portfolio of district home missions director.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XVI, Section 2, paragraph e. Home Missions Committee, be relettered f and that the subsequent paragraphs be relettered accordingly, and that a new paragraph be inserted which shall read:

e. Teen Challenge Board. The Teen Challenge Board shall consist of 18 members, 12 of whom shall be Spirit-filled members of the Assemblies of God, and six of whom shall be proven ministers or laymen from other evangelical groups. Its membership shall consist of the national director of the Division of Home Missions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, serving as president of the corporation and chairman of the board, the secretary of the Teen Challenge Department, and four regional representatives who are Teen Challenge directors, all of whom will serve by virtue of office.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XVI, Section 7, Support, be renumbered 8 and that a new Section 7 be inserted which shall read:

Section 7. Teen Challenge Department

a. Department secretary. There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Function. The Teen Challenge Department shall assist the local centers through the networking of information, national curriculum, available workers, fundraising, and public relations. Further the Teen Challenge Department will oversee the national certification of every local center. Teen Challenge endeavors to help people become mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well, and spiritually alive.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XVI, present Section 7 (to be renumbered as 8), Support, be amended by adding a new paragraph i which shall read:

i. Teen Challenge Department

(1) All Teen Challenge Centers should contribute a minimum of \$50 monthly to assist in supporting the national Teen Challenge Department.

(2) All Teen Challenge center ministers who are appointed home missionaries shall contribute one-half of their tithes to assist in supporting the national Teen Challenge Department.

Resolution 11. American Indian Department

George Wood read Resolution 11 as follows and moved its adoption.

WHEREAS, The 1977 General Council adopted Resolution 15 which provided for the appointment of an American Indian field representative in the Division of Home Missions; and

WHEREAS, This resolution made no provision for its inclusion into the General Council Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, The American Indian field has the largest number of appointed home missionaries in the Division of Home Missions; and

WHEREAS, The Native American field has 205 American Indian Assemblies on 104 reservations with over 13,300 members, and is larger than some district councils; and

WHEREAS, There are over 3 million Native Americans in the continental United States; and

WHEREAS, Half of the American Indians now live in urban centers but the Assemblies of God has only 6 churches in these urban centers which reach not more than 1 percent of the American Indian population; and

WHEREAS, There are a number of American Indian assemblies without pastors; and

WHEREAS, It is becoming increasingly difficult for a non-Indian to enter the reservations or settlements; and

WHEREAS, The average age of our missionary force on the American Indian field is 63 years of age; and

WHEREAS, We are entering the Decade of Harvest and there is a great need to reach the aboriginal people of America with the gospel; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XVI, Division of Home Missions, Section 1, paragraph c. Departments, be amended by adding a new subparagraph (6) American Indian Ministries Department. The section would then read:

c. Departments. The work of the division shall include six major departments:

- (1) New Church Evangelism Department
- (2) Intercultural Ministries Department
- (3) Chaplaincy Department
- (4) College Ministries Department
- (5) Teen Challenge Department
- (6) American Indian Ministries Department

Further be it

RESOLVED, That bylaws Article XVI, Section 2, paragraph b, be amended by adding the phrase "American Indian Ministries Department" so that the section will read:

b. Home Missions Board. The New Church Evangelism Department, the College Ministries Department, the Intercultural Ministries Department, the Teen Challenge Department, and the American Indian Ministries Department shall be under the supervision of the Home Missions Board. It shall consist of the national director, one member of the Board of Administration, two nonresident members of the Executive Presbytery, and eight other ministers selected from each of the eight established geographical areas of the Fellowship. Four of the national board members shall be selected from among those district officials who have assigned to them the portfolio of district home missions director.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XVI, Section 7, be renumbered as Section 8; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the following be added as bylaw Article XVI, Section 7:

Section 7. American Indian Ministries Department

a. American Indian Representative. American Indian Ministries shall be under the direction of a full-time American Indian Representative. A person with American Indian ministry experience and, preferably, one who is an American Indian according to federal definition, shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery on the

basis of nominations by home missionaries and ordained ministers on the American Indian field. The representative shall be amenable to and serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the ministries of American Indians. The representative may be a person with American Indian missionary status.

b. Functions. The American Indian representative shall be responsible for:

(1) Developing and providing information of available materials such as evangelism literature, Sunday school materials, and other helps for American Indian churches as funds permit.

(2) Providing promotional materials for districts, colleges, and local churches to impart vision and motivation for the establishing of indigenous American Indian churches.

(3) Assisting in the development of programs for the involvement of students and faculty members from the Assemblies of God colleges in ministry to the American Indians.

(4) Assisting in the development of curriculum materials related to American Indian ministries for Assemblies of God colleges and missionaries.

(5) Utilizing the personnel resources of our Fellowship and working in conjunction with Mobilization and Placement Service (MAPS) to assist in American Indian ministries.

(6) Be available for Indian adult and youth camps, and similar district approved programs designed to further reach and train the American Indian.

(7) Be available for special missionary services in districts and churches desiring representation from the Indian mission field.

(8) Assist in raising funds for the National Indian Fund and for support to district and nationally approved American Indian projects.

(9) Visit Native American Indian pastors and missionaries to develop communication and networking.

(10) Perform such other responsibilities as may be assigned by the national director of the Division of Home Missions.

c. Liaison with districts. The American Indian Ministries Department shall relate to districts in accordance with the provisions of this Article, Section 2, j.

d. Indigenous principle. The Pauline example shall be followed to the extent possible by seeking out neglected regions where the gospel has not been preached in urban and reservation settings, encouraging the establishment of self-supporting, self-governing, self-propagating American Indian churches.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That bylaws Article XVI, present Section 7. Support, be amended by adding a new paragraph i which shall read:

i. American Indian Ministries Department. Financial assistance in meeting the operating expense of the American Indian representative shall be provided from:

(1) Offerings designated for office expense for American Indian ministries.

(2) All nationally appointed or approved home missionaries to the American Indians shall contribute one-half of their tithes.

(3) Appropriations and fund development efforts approved by the Home Missions Board or national director of the Division of Home Missions.

(4) A recommended monthly contribution from each American Indian assembly in an amount equal to the tithe of its pastor.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XVI, present Section 7, paragraph h, be amended by adding the following:

h. One-half of the tithes of all nationally appointed home missionaries, excluding those home missionaries whose one-half tithe has already been allocated according to other provisions in this section.

Following a time of discussion, a motion prevailed that this resolution be referred to a committee appointed by the Executive Presbytery and that it be brought back to the 1991 General Council.

Resolution 12. Position Papers Study Committee

George Wood read Resolution 12 and moved its adoption.

Following a time of discussion the motion to adopt Resolution 12 as presented carried.

A motion prevailed that the preamble of the Resolution be amended by deleting lines 10, 11, and 12.

Resolution 12 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, There are many issues, doctrines, and trends that have caused confusion within this great Fellowship requiring the General Presbytery to issue position papers; and

WHEREAS, Eighteen or more position papers have been adopted and issued by the General Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, Many of these papers deal with social issues of great importance and doctrinal truth; and

WHEREAS, There is confusion within our Fellowship concerning the status of the position papers; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery on August 11, 1986, stated "that position papers be viewed as standing alone from all other in-

struments for understanding issues affecting the General Council;" therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery appoint a committee to study the position papers issued by the General Presbytery to clarify their status and to determine which if any should be presented to the General Council in session for adoption; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this committee submit its report and any implementing resolutions to the 1991 General Council.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 5 p.m. with prayer by Robert Maddox, Ellendale, North Dakota.

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE—AUGUST 11

The Friday evening service was under the direction of Jesse Miranda, superintendent of the Pacific Latin American District. Thomas F. Zimmerman, former general superintendent, gave the Scripture reading from Isaiah 53:4-6 and James 5:13-16. The congregational singing was led by Paul Ferrin. Don Jones, minister of music, Southside Assembly of God, St. Louis, Missouri, served at the piano. Randy Wright, Springfield, Missouri, served at the electric piano. Kasi Jones, Southside Assembly of God, St. Louis, Missouri, was at the organ. The offering appeal was made by Ernest J. Moen, superintendent of the Illinois District. The offertory and special music was provided by a combined college choir directed by Tom McDonald.

Missouri Governor John D. Ashcroft was honored in the evening service by the general superintendent presenting him with the General Superintendent's Medal of Honor. Brother Carlson cited Governor Ashcroft for his "Christian commitment which is such an integral part of his life."

The speaker for the evening service was Charles Crank, superintendent of the Indiana District. The theme for his message was divine healing. He used Matthew 8:15-23 and Psalm 107:20 for his text. His sermon unfolded the fundamental doctrine of divine healing, showing: "The Spoken Word of God Reveals His Healing Nature"; "The Written Word of God Reveals His Healing Promise"; "The Living Word of God Reveals His Healing Provision"; and "The Preaching of the Word of God Proclaims God's Healing Power."

SATURDAY MORNING—AUGUST 12 GENERAL COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL BREAKFAST

The International Breakfast was held Saturday, August 12, in the Convention Center Exhibit Halls D and E beginning at 7:30 a.m. G. Raymond Carlson served as chairman. Breakfast music was provided by Kenton Lee, minister of music, First Assembly of God Life Center, Oakland, California.

Special guests at the breakfast included Assemblies of God leaders from

around the world who had joined the U. S. church for its 75th anniversary celebration. Eli Javier, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God in the Philippines, and Jean Pawentaore Ouedraogo, general superintendent of the Burkina Faso Assemblies of God, gave brief reports on the Pentecostal revival in their nations.

The speaker for the breakfast was J. Philip Hogan, executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions.

Saturday Morning Business

"That Your Joy May Be Full," "I Love You With the Love of the Lord," and "He's the Savior of My Soul," were the choruses led by Paul Ferrin as the business session began. Sharon Burdine, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Randy Wright, Springfield, Missouri, and Betty Johnson, Memphis, Tennessee, served at the piano, electric piano, and organ respectively. James Biram, superintendent of the Kentucky District, made the offering appeal. The offertory was a piano solo by Herb Johnson, professor at King's College, Briarcliff Manor, New York.

Business Session

The business session was called to order at 10:23 a.m. Richard Neubauer, pastor from Arlington, Virginia, opened in prayer.

Roster Committee Report

Elmer E. Kirschman gave the following report as of 10 a.m., Saturday, August 12:

Ordained ministers	4,781	
Delegates	<u>1,336</u>	
Total voting		6,117
Licensed ministers	720	
Visitors	<u>12,152</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>12,872</u>
Total registration		18,989

A motion prevailed to receive this progress report of the Roster Committee.

Resolution 13. Chaplaincy Department

George Wood read Resolution 13 and moved its adoption.

It was moved and seconded to amend line 21, paragraph (e), by adding the words, "and field personnel whose assignments will be made and duties outlined by the Institutional Chaplaincy Department," before the period.

Following discussion the motion was voted on and declared lost. A roll call of the house was requested. The tellers reported that there were

734 yes votes and 808 no votes. The chairman declared that the motion did in fact lose.

A motion was made and seconded to amend by adding the words, "and their families," at the end of line 17, and adding a comma and the words, "mental health, and medical health," at the end of line 20, and adding a new paragraph (h), which would read, "(h) Assisting the districts and local churches in ministry within industrial and institutional settings." The amendment was voted on and declared carried.

Resolution 13 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The Commission on Chaplains has reviewed Bylaws Article XVI, Section 5, paragraph c, (2) and paragraph d, (2); and

WHEREAS, Amendment is needed to reflect the full scope of functions for those engaged in Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy, and Military Chaplaincy; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws Article XVI, Section 5, paragraph c, (2) be amended as follows:

(2) Functions. The basic functions of this area shall include:

(a) Processing applications of candidates for the Industrial or Institutional Chaplaincy for submission to the Commission on Chaplains for its official endorsement.

(b) Providing supportive ministry for full-time and part-time chaplains.

(c) Supply Bibles, training courses, and other literature for individuals in industry and institutions.

(d) Working among or directing ministry to individuals and their families in industry and institutions, known as Industrial and Institutional Ministries.

(e) Appointing contact pastors for the major correctional, mental health, and medical health facilities in the United States.

(f) Seeking ministry opportunities for chaplains and encouraging them therein.

(g) Receiving offerings designated for this ministry and support from its various chaplains.

(h) Assisting the districts and local churches in ministry within industrial and institutional settings.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article XVI, Section 5, paragraph d, (2) be amended by adding provision (g) which shall read as follows:

(g) Serving as the certifying and approving authority for those applying to the military as directors of Religious Education.

Remarks by Nonresident Executive Presbyters

The general superintendent asked each of the nonresident executive presbyters to respond to their election. Each responded by appropriate

for the confidence that has been placed in him and for the privilege of serving the General Council.

Remarks by James E. Hamill

Brother Carlson asked that James Hamill, who has been such an integral part of our Fellowship, who has served us well for many years, serving two times as executive presbyter, to make remarks.

At a later time during this business session a motion prevailed that James Hamill's address be properly edited and placed in the minutes as a permanent record of this General Council, since this should be a model for all of us at all times in our lives.

The address of James E. Hamill follows:

Thank you, Brother Carlson. Thank you, friends.

Well, I have set another record. I don't know of anyone else who has been elected executive presbyter twice and been defeated twice. All my ministry I have set records of one kind or another. Not all of them good, but records nevertheless.

It has been a real pleasure for me to serve as a member of the Executive Presbytery for 13½ years. I deeply appreciate the privilege. I confess to you, I never, never felt worthy or qualified to be in such a wonderful and influential position. And eventually you caught up with what I have been thinking all these years. I almost declined to let my district nominate me last March for this office, and really and truly, for 2 years, I have debated. One day I was going to quit, and the next day, well—if they want me to, I will serve 2 more years. And, so being such a good guy, I decided I would serve if you wanted me to—and if you don't want me to, I won't. Except for the embarrassment of not being reelected, I confess to you that I am not unhappy about the situation.

You know I stand here today to tell you that I was licensed to preach 59 years ago this month, and I have never asked for a meeting. I never in my whole life applied for a church, and I never sought an office. And God knows I have had some of all of them, and I appreciate it. I am grateful and humbled by it, but my life was given to the Lord more than 60 years ago. I was ordained 57 years ago this month. I was very grateful that years later, when they had a resolution up in the General Presbytery not to ordain one until he or she was 23 years of age, I had already been ordained at 19. In fact, I had already been a district presbyter. I had already been a district secretary, and I was on the General Presbytery by the time I was 25. I served there 45 years, and I am so grateful. I was thinking this morning how grateful I am that I am honorary, not ornery, presbyter, and you cannot vote me out of that office.

I have never made a more sincere statement than this: I am pleased with the man you chose to succeed me as an executive presbyter. As

you heard him say this morning, his family were pioneers in this great church, and how thankful I am. There is one bit of advice I want to give him as my successor. Don't sit in my chair. For a long, long time, I sat right next to the General Superintendent, but when I came in the second time, we had a new administration, and they had moved the assistant superintendent in to sit by the superintendent, and pushed me down a chair. I am always being pushed down. And you know, I cannot see over the assistant superintendent, and I can't see around him. So Brother Wannenmacher, don't select that chair.

I hope to live for the next 10 years at least. Of course, I don't know. None of us does for that matter, but I would love to be a participant in the Decade of Harvest right to its end. That is my prayer and my hope. I want to thank you for 59 years in this wonderful ministry. I have never belonged to any other church. While we were taking our youngest son to a baccalaureate service in the good old days, it happened to be at a church of another denomination. My son said, "Dad, you know I have never been to a service in any church in my life except the Assemblies of God." (I didn't realize it until then.) I am Assemblies of God, always have been, and always hope to be. Forty-five years now on the General Presbytery—and you ain't lived until you hear that crowd—13½ years on the Executive Presbytery, 59 years in the ministry. I want you to know there is not one person in this General Council (I was trying to think of just one this morning) that I don't like. It is a little difficult at times, but I love every one of them. God richly bless you all.

Resolution 9. Abortion—Pro-life Conduct of Ministers

The chairman asked William Vickery, chairman of the special committee requested to rework Resolution 9, to present the report of this committee.

Brother Vickery stated that the committee met a little over 2 hours and at the conclusion of the meeting the resolution was unanimously consented to and supported by every member of the committee.

Brother Vickery read the resolution and moved its adoption.

It was moved and seconded that line 8 and line 18 be amended by changing the word "killing" to "murder." It was pointed out that it would not be proper to amend line 8 since it is part of the preamble. The chairman ruled that the amendment would be out of order.

A revised amendment was moved and seconded that line 18 be amended by substituting the word "murder" for the word "killing." The motion was voted on and declared lost.

A motion prevailed to make editorial changes on line 17 by deleting the word "the" and by adding an "s" to the word "minister," and by changing the word "he" to "they."

The motion to adopt Resolution 9 as amended was adopted:

Resolution 9 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The 1985 General Council adopted a Sanctity of Human Life resolution committing the Assemblies of God to a strong pro-life scriptural stance on the question of abortion; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has issued an excellent position paper, "A Biblical Perspective on Abortion;" and

WHEREAS, Since these documents were approved a new development has taken place in the pro-life movement against abortion in the form of nonviolent and peaceful acts to prevent the killing of the unborn; and

WHEREAS, Ministers of our Fellowship are looking to the General Council for counsel regarding their participation in these nonviolent and peaceful acts; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council reaffirms its strong, pro-life biblical stance on the subject of abortion, and approves participation in the pro-life movement by all scriptural means and disapproves all unscriptural acts by its ministers; and leaves to the discretion of individual ministers the extent to which they may participate in nonviolent and peaceful acts of intervention to prevent the killing of the unborn.

Privileged Motion

The following privileged motion was made and seconded.

WHEREAS, We have seen the need for the legal counsel and advice of this Council; and

WHEREAS, It is always good to have this advice and help in matters of legal content and language; and

WHEREAS, The General Council has an in-house counsel; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That said legal counsel hereafter become an ex-officio member of the Resolutions Committee to the General Council in session, to act as a legal advisor, and be it further

RESOLVED, That he be available at the business sessions of the General Council in session to act in the advisory capacity in matters of legal considerations.

Following a time of discussion a motion prevailed to refer this matter to the Executive Presbytery for study and action.

Privileged Motion

Re. Resolutions 14 and 25

The following motion was made and seconded:

WHEREAS, This General Council has directed the appointment of the committee to study educational matters, specifically Resolutions 1 and 2; and

WHEREAS, Resolutions 14 and 25 address closely related matters; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Resolutions 14 and 25 be referred to the same committee.

It was pointed out that Resolution 25 is independent of the report given earlier and needs the consideration of this Council to reflect current prevailing practice, and that Resolution 14 is dealing with tools for the Decade of Harvest which is totally separate from the study committee.

A question was asked if either one of these resolutions had been presented to the floor for consideration. The chairman replied that they had not. In view of this a motion prevailed that since it is out of order to discuss these resolutions, and in view of the hour, it was moved that the meeting recess and that these matters be taken up as they come in the order of presentation.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 12 noon to reconvene at 2 p.m. with prayer by Orville Carlson, missionary to Jamaica.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 12

The Saturday afternoon business session was opened with D. Fred Leader, secretary-treasurer of the Indiana District, leading the congregation in singing "Praise the Name of Jesus." Linda Greer, Plainfield, Indiana, was the pianist and Ramona Redding, Crossett, Arkansas, was the organist.

Vernon Nybakken, Trinity Temple, Las Vegas, Nevada, led in prayer for the afternoon business session, after which a brief video tribute to Johnnie Barnes was shown.

Business Session

The business session was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

Privileged Motion

The following motion was made and seconded:

WHEREAS, Past General Council schedules interrupted our business, causing loss of hundreds of voting constituents, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we support the schedule of this General Council, and be it further

RESOLVED, That we adopt the schedule of the General Council as the schedule for all future General Councils to begin at the next General Council if possible.

The chairman explained that such an action could be entertained on the basis that it be an indication to the Executive Presbytery for guidance in decisions for future General Councils because there are already some commitments which may not be possible to change.

In light of this information, a motion prevailed that this be recommended to the Executive Presbytery for consideration.

Roster Committee Report

D. Fred Leader brought the report of the Roster Committee as of 2 p.m., Saturday, August 12, as follows:

Ordained ministers	4,781	
Delegates	<u>1,335</u>	
Total voting		6,116
Licensed ministers	724	
Visitors	<u>12,309</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>13,033</u>
Total registration		19,149

It was noted that these figures did not include the 2,500 youth who are registered, nor the 800 children.

A motion prevailed that this Roster Committee report be accepted as a progress report, and that the closing of the roster be deferred until after the 75th Anniversary celebration and launching of the Decade of Harvest, Sunday night, August 13, 1989.

Resolution 14. ICI Study Committee

George Wood read Resolution 14 and moved its adoption.

A motion was made to amend line 33 by adding the words, "the national director of the Decade of Harvest for his actions," at the end of the line. The chairman stated that this would not be a proper action, since this refers to a person, not to a deliberative body. He further explained the working relationship of this office with the Decade of Harvest Task Force. The maker of the motion asked that the motion be withdrawn.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 14 be amended by deleting on lines 29-31 the words, "Not eliminate or detract from existing Assemblies of God correspondence programs or colleges, but" and adding the words, "study the feasibility of amalgamating ICI materials with those of existing Assemblies of God correspondence programs and coordinate this program with our colleges, and." Following a time of discussion the motion was voted on and was declared lost.

A motion prevailed to refer this resolution along with these comments to the Executive Presbytery for its action.

Resolution 14 as presented follows:

WHEREAS, The awesome challenges of the 1990s are being met with the Spirit-led responses of the Decade of Harvest; and

WHEREAS, A strategy that calls for the Assemblies of God to plant 5,000 new churches, reach and win 5,000,000 persons to Christ, and train and disciple 20,000 persons for ministry will stretch local churches, district offices, and national headquarters to their maximum potential and utmost resources; and

WHEREAS, Such a strategy and challenge will require greater availability of resources for the local church; and

WHEREAS, The local church is limited in meeting present and future challenges to evangelize and disciple others due to the lack of ready and easy accessibility of successfully proven evangelism and discipleship tools that are presently restricted in their availability within the United States; and

WHEREAS, The aforementioned effective tools have been developed by the International Correspondence Institute (ICI) of the Assemblies of God and have been effectively used by God in many nations of the world; and

WHEREAS, These ICI materials are made available around the world with marketing and price enhancement for volume distribution, and potentially could be made available in the United States with similar access and economy of cost; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery appoint a committee to study the feasibility of all or part of the ICI materials to be made available in the United States at greatly reduced costs and enhanced marketing availability; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this committee consist of at least a 50 percent constituency of pastors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the work of this committee will not eliminate or detract from existing Assemblies of God correspondence programs or colleges, but will serve the evangelism and discipleship needs noted above through means most practical and inexpensive; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this study committee make its recommendations to the Executive Presbytery for its action, with the option to refer it to the General Presbytery for whatever input or action it deems appropriate, and that the study committee report and the Executive or General Presbytery action on the report be brought to the 1991 General Council for approval.

Resolution 15. Zoning Laws

George Wood read Resolution 15 and moved its adoption.

It was moved and seconded to amend, beginning at the semicolon on line 15 replacing it with a period and deleting the remainder of the sentence. The motion to amend was lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 15 as printed was carried.

Resolution 15 as presented follows:

WHEREAS, The "Decade of Harvest" challenges the Assemblies of God to accelerate the planting of churches throughout our nation; and

WHEREAS, Some church planting efforts have in the past encountered difficulties in securing properties and permits, and this discrimination appears to be proliferating; and

WHEREAS, While communities are responsible for zoning guide-

lines to protect its properties, this should not be to the restricting of the rights of freedom of worship as guaranteed by the Constitution and its amendments; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, The General Council of the Assemblies of God, support the right of citizens to establish and build churches to serve its adherents and the general public; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we support the right to secure properties for church planting and construction in planned and established communities including residential areas; and we further urge elected officials to protect the rights of its citizenry.

Resolution of Appreciation to Leadership

George Wood read the following Resolution of Appreciation and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The past biennium since our 42nd General Council has been mired by difficult periods of time during which our leadership was called upon to make principled, righteous and biblically-based decisions; and

WHEREAS, Our leadership has diligently sought the counsel of the Lord and His written Word and also to uphold our constitution and bylaws which we believe in matters of ministerial discipline to be based upon biblical principles; and

WHEREAS, All during this time our leadership has persevered in setting before us a positive and forward thrust of the 1990s during a time in which a less godly and less mature leadership might have let us become consumed with the business issues and personalities; and

WHEREAS, It would seem appropriate for this General Council to express its thanksgiving for the sterling leadership God has given us; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this 43rd General Council express its commendations to our general superintendent, G. Raymond Carlson, our executive officers, the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery for their superb leadership in the cause of Christ and to this Movement during the past biennium.

The delegates responded heartily in adopting the resolution by applauding and rising for a standing ovation. The chairman expressed appreciation for the prayer support, the moral support, and the spiritual support of a host of Assemblies of God people.

Resolution 22. Fellowship Partnership

George Wood read Resolution 22 and moved its adoption as follows:

WHEREAS, We believe that these next years are going to be challenging days for our Fellowship in its growth and outreach; and

WHEREAS, We believe that the Lord has called the Assemblies of

God to continue to be leaders in the reaching of our world with the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, Since the Word of God teaches us the principle of sowing and reaping, directing us through that precept to tithe from the General Council Administration Fund and thus believe God to multiply the seed sown; and

WHEREAS, It is going to take resources we do not presently have to accomplish our task of world evangelization; and

WHEREAS, The current amount of giving from churches to the General Fund is based upon a suggested guide of \$1 per year per church member; and

WHEREAS, Most churches have not followed that guideline; and

WHEREAS, Participation may be increased through suggesting a set amount of contribution per the size of the church's Sunday morning attendance; and

WHEREAS, \$1,034,800 would be given by churches to the General Fund if the following guidelines were kept:

3,410 churches under 50 giving \$25 per church per year	\$ 85,250
3,388 churches under 100 giving \$50 per church per year	169,400
2,819 churches under 250 giving \$100 per church per year	281,900
807 churches under 500 giving \$250 per church per year	201,750
285 churches under 1,000 giving \$500 per church per year	142,500
94 churches under 2,000 giving \$1,000 per church per year	94,000
30 churches over 2,000 giving \$2,000 per church per year	60,000

Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XVIII. Division of the Treasury, Section 1. Finance Department, paragraph c. Support of Headquarters, (2) which now reads:

(2) From assemblies. It is recommended that each church send to the General Council at least one offering for each calendar year toward the support of the administrative offices of the General Council. This offering shall be included with the Annual Church Ministries Report. It is suggested that the churches consider \$1 per year per church member as a guide for determining the amount of this annual offering.

Be amended to read:

(2) From assemblies. It is recommended that each church send to the General Council at least one offering for each calendar year toward the support of the administrative offices of the General Council. This offering shall be called a Fellowship Partnership offering, and shall be included with the Annual Church Ministries Report. It is suggested that each church's minimal offering be based upon its average Sunday morning attendance. A church averaging less than 50 is asked to send \$25 for the year; less than 100 but more than 50, \$50; less than 250 but more than 100, \$100; less than 500 but

more than 250, \$250; less than 1,000 but more than 500, \$500; less than 2,000 but more than 1,000, \$1,000; over 2,000, \$2,000.
The motion to adopt Resolution 22 was carried.

Procedural Motion

A motion prevailed that each speaker on the floor be limited to 2 minutes. By common consent it was agreed that this would not apply to those presenting resolutions or motions.

Resolution 23. Audit Department

It was reported that by action of the Executive Presbytery this resolution is being withdrawn.

Resolution 23 as printed is as follows:

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery is moving toward establishing an Internal Auditor rather than an Internal Audit Department; and

WHEREAS, This action will conserve General Council funds while providing without lessening accounting controls and oversight of monies; and

WHEREAS, New bylaw language must be adopted to implement this change; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Article XVIII. Division of the Treasury, Section 5. Audit Department, be amended through substituting the following language:

Section 5. Internal Auditor

a. Government and organization

(1) Internal auditor. There shall be an internal auditor who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. He shall be under the supervision of the general treasurer and shall be directly accountable to the Board of Administration and the Executive Presbytery.

(2) Responsibility. The internal auditor basically serves management by measuring and evaluating the effectiveness of controls. His work is complementary to the independent auditor, using a similar approach but a different application of auditing techniques, independence, reporting, and interest served.

b. Annual audit. There shall be an annual audit of the financial records of The General Council of the Assemblies of God by an independent auditor, prepared in conformity with generally accepted auditing standards.

Resolution 24. Sunday School Directions

George Wood read Resolution 24 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The basic resources offered to the local assembly in developing its written policy and course of action is now Directions—For the Decade of Harvest; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XIII. Division of Church Minis-

tries, Section 3. Sunday School Department, paragraph d. District organization(s), subparagraph (1), (b) which now reads:

(b) To encourage every Sunday school in the district to establish written operational policies based on the National Sunday School Guidelines.

Be amended to read:

(b) To encourage every Sunday school in the district to establish written operational policies based on Directions—For the Decade of Harvest.

The motion to adopt Resolution 24 as presented carried.

Resolution 25. Certificate of Endorsement Assemblies of God Schools

George Wood read Resolution 25 and moved its adoption as follows:

WHEREAS, Article XII, Section 2, of the General Council Bylaws authorizes the Education Department to issue annual certificates of endorsement; and

WHEREAS, The government and work of the Education Department is vested in and committed to the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, There are now 18 endorsed Assemblies of God post-secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that our schools be evaluated on the basis of approved endorsement criteria in a more thorough fashion than can be done reasonably on an annual basis; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That institutes, colleges, and graduate schools be considered for endorsement, on a rotating basis, for terms of 1 to 5 years at the discretion of the Board of Education, with the privilege of intermediate reviews and actions when necessary, and with opportunity granted to the presidents to respond to questions which may be raised; and be it further

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article XII, Section 2, paragraph d, subparagraph (1) which now reads:

(1) Annual certificates of endorsement. The Education Department shall issue annual certificates of endorsement to schools meeting its standards for endorsement, and no school operated by or patronized by members of the Assemblies of God shall be recognized as approved unless or until it conforms to the standards erected by the Education Department and has been officially approved by such department.

Be amended to read:

(1) Certificates of endorsement. The Education Department shall issue certificates of endorsement to postsecondary schools meeting the standards for endorsement established by the Board of Education. Such certificates shall be authorized by the Board of Education after careful evaluation of said schools, with special consideration

given to the responsiveness to the church's mission, and shall be valid for 1 to 5 years, at the discretion of the Board of Education. No postsecondary school operated by or patronized by members of the Assemblies of God shall be recognized as approved unless or until it conforms to the standards established by the Board of Education and has been officially approved by the Board. The motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution 31. Cooperative Relationship Between Foreign Language and Geographical Districts

George Wood read Resolution 31 and moved its adoption:

It was moved and seconded to refer Resolution 31 to a committee for study relative to Assemblies of God ministry in languages other than English, and to report to the General Presbytery, which shall bring the matter with its recommendations to the next General Council. In response to a question, it was noted that this has already been through a study committee. The motion to refer was lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 31 was carried.

Resolution 31 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God is blessed with dynamically growing foreign language districts; and

WHEREAS, Foreign language groups share the same geographical area as geographical districts; and

WHEREAS, Present bylaw provisions related to cooperation and communication between foreign language and geographical districts could be strengthened to more clearly delineate the responsibilities of said districts to one another; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That bylaws Article V, Section 4, c, and d, be amended as follows:

ARTICLE V. DISTRICT COUNCILS

Section 4. Foreign Language Districts

Present

c. Cooperative relationship. Both the foreign language district and the geographical district shall seek to promote a spirit of fellowship and cooperation. The foreign language officers shall consult with the officials of the geographical district concerning the opening of new works, or institutions of any kind, in a given area. The churches shall unite, where possible, in fellowship activities.

Proposed

c. Cooperative relationship. Both the foreign language district and the geographical district shall seek to promote a spirit of fellowship and cooperation. The foreign language district officers and the geographical district officers should inform and/or consult together concerning the opening of new foreign language works or institutions of any kind, in a given area. The foreign language churches, whether members of a geographical or foreign language district, are encouraged to unite where possible, in fellowship activities.

d. Sponsorship and affiliation of a foreign language group. Should an English-speaking church desire to initiate sponsorship of a foreign language group, it should consult with both the geographical and the foreign language districts for counsel and guidance and seek assistance from the foreign language district for a minister to the group. Such an effort should be initiated with the objective in mind that it will develop into a foreign language church in affiliation with the foreign language district. The sponsoring church may provide facilities and/or support to such a work through its district home missions department. When such a group reaches as many as 20 adult foreign language members, and desires to become a separate church, the sponsoring church should take steps to encourage the group to become affiliated with the foreign language district.

d. Sponsorship and affiliation of a foreign language group. Should an English-speaking church desire to initiate sponsorship of a foreign language group, it shall consult with its district officials for counsel and guidance. The geographical district should inform and/or consult with foreign language district officers concerning the beginning of a foreign language group within churches belonging to the geographical district. The sponsoring church may provide facilities and/or support to such a work through its district home missions department. Such an effort may be initiated with the objective in mind that it will develop into an Assembly of God church. When such a church reaches as many as 20 adult foreign language members, it may then seek affiliation with a district of its choice following prescribed guidelines as outlined in these bylaws.

Resolution 32. National Men's Ministries Committee

George Wood read Resolution 32 as follows and moved its adoption.

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery has approved the discontinuance of the Kingsmen program on a national level; and

WHEREAS, Appropriate revision needs to be made in the bylaws to reflect this change; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the following be substituted for the last point of the first sentence in bylaw Article XIII, Section 1, b, (2), beginning with the words "... one from each of the following areas: a district men's director and one from each of the ministries within the department." The entire paragraph shall then read as follows:

(2) National Men's Ministries Committee. There shall be a national Men's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national di-

rector of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, the commander of the Royal Rangers, the secretary of Light-for-the-Lost, and four representatives—a district men's director and one from each of the ministries within the department. They shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

The motion to adopt Resolution 32 was carried.

Resolution 33. Granting Credential Status to Ministers' Spouses

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee read Resolution 33 and moved its adoption.

It was moved and seconded to refer this resolution back to the Executive Presbytery to be presented to the 1991 General Council, with this language or any alternate language that would give the ability to communicate by letter with the presbytery in the meantime relative to any concerns about this matter.

An amendment was made and seconded that the motion be amended by adding, "and to request that the Executive Presbytery provide the criteria by which the districts would be able to determine who is actually qualified for such a credential." Following a time of discussion the motion to amend was lost.

The motion to refer was voted on and was lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 33 was carried.

Resolution 33 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, In the ministry, as in no other profession, the pastor's spouse has an active role as a counselor, teacher, role model, public ministry participant, etc., which should qualify him or her for a special ministries license; and

WHEREAS, The Fellowship does not currently validate the ministry of the spouse of an Assemblies of God minister and such should be recognized; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council give due consideration to granting a special ministry license to ministers' spouses who qualify, recognizing their position and service, and be it further

RESOLVED, That Article VII, Section 3, paragraph b (2) specialized ministry be amended by adding the words, "church-related ministry by a minister's spouse" after the word, "music," so that it will read:

(2) Specialized ministry. An evident purpose to devote one's time to a specialized ministry such as Christian education, music, church-related ministry by a minister's spouse, or other full-time ministries. The same qualifications as outlined in Section 2 of this article shall apply.

Resolution 34. Minimum Churches for Foreign Language Districts

George Wood read Resolution 34 and moved its adoption.

A motion was made and seconded to amend line 28 by changing the number "50" to "30." The motion to amend was lost.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that throughout the resolution where the number "50" appears that it be changed to "40."

The motion to adopt Resolution 34 as amended was carried.

Resolution 34 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The present minimum number of 20 churches required to constitute a foreign language district council seems to be too small; and

WHEREAS, The present minimum number of 20 churches required to maintain a foreign language district council also seems too small; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article V, Section 4. a. be amended by changing the number 20 in the first sentence to 40, and by deleting the second sentence and substituting the following wording so that it will read as follows:

a. Recognition qualifications. In order to become a district of the Assemblies of God, a foreign language group must have a minimum number of 40 churches. Any foreign language group consisting of less than 40 Assemblies of God churches may be authorized by the Executive Presbytery to form a fellowship of churches. The fellowship shall exist for the purpose of exchanging information and facilitating evangelism and the establishing of churches within its group. Until such time as they are qualified to form a district(s), they shall be part of the geographic or foreign language district. Leadership for fellowship groups shall be approved by the Executive Presbytery.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That bylaw Article V, Section 4 be amended by adding a new paragraph b and by reidentifying the present paragraph b as c, and relettering the following paragraphs accordingly. The new paragraph b shall read as follows:

b. Decrease of churches. Recognized foreign language districts with less than 40 churches whose number of churches decrease for two consecutive years shall move to a fellowship status.

Special Resolution Re. Editing for Conformity

The Resolutions Committee offered a resolution to instruct the general secretary to edit any portion of the bylaws that may be in conflict with the previous action taken in Resolution 34 and bring that section into conformity with this action.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution 16. Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee read Resolution 16 as follows and moved its adoption.

WHEREAS, The 1985 General Council adopted a resolution, The Sanctity of Human Life, opposing abortion; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has issued a position paper which sets forth our understanding of the biblical teaching relating to abortion; and

WHEREAS, These documents called for us to take a firm stand against abortion and uphold the sanctity of human life; and

WHEREAS, Millions of other believers in these United States have set aside the third Sunday in January as Sanctity of Human Life Sunday; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council declare its recognition annually for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday; and further be it

RESOLVED, That our churches and ministers be encouraged to recognize Sanctity of Human Life Sunday; and further be it

RESOLVED, That the various publications of the Assemblies of God such as the *Pentecostal Evangel* and *Advance* magazine give appropriate recognition to Sanctity of Human Life Sunday and related pro-life issues; and further be it

RESOLVED, That we strongly encourage every pastor and all of the Assemblies of God to be actively involved in upholding the sanctity of human life in their respective communities as God so directs.

The preceding motion was adopted.

Resolution 17. Doctrinal Positions on Deviant Doctrines

George Wood read Resolution 17 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Pentecostal/charismatic movement is besieged by certain teachings that are at variance with the Statement of Fundamental Truths held and taught by the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has thoughtfully prepared and issued position papers concerning these teachings; and

WHEREAS, The teachings of certain evangelists and teachers tend to gain broad penetration into the homes of Assemblies of God members through television, radio, and print media and thereby undermine the influence of our pastors in upholding scriptural positions; and

WHEREAS, In the wake of recent date-setting, some Kingdom Now teachers, who oppose the doctrine of the imminent premillennial return of Christ, are seizing the occasion to discredit biblical doctrine and are causing confusion; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council encourage its ministers to bring before their congregations and places of ministry the General Council position papers and articles published in *General Council*

publications on (1) the Kingdom Now/Dominion teaching, and (2) the Shepherdling Movement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That our pastors, churches, and schools be encouraged to screen speakers who are known advocates of these false teachings and doctrines; and be it further

RESOLVED, That our churches be encouraged to study in a positive and systematic way for their instruction, indoctrination, and benefit our Assemblies of God Statement of Fundamental Truths and the position papers issued by the General Presbytery.

A motion was made and seconded to table this resolution until such a time when the committee appointed to study position papers has an opportunity to present its findings to the General Council.

A point of order was raised relative to action which had been taken during the Friday afternoon business session when an amendment on Resolution 12 was withdrawn on the basis that the passage of the resolution would in no way impede the discussion of Resolution 17. The motion to table Resolution 17 was lost.

It was moved and seconded to amend lines 19-21 by substituting "Assemblies of God" in place of "our" and following the word, "schools," add: "and institutions shall not use or make their facilities available to those," and striking the words "be encouraged to screen speakers." A substitute motion prevailed to refer this resolution, along with the proposed amendment to the committee that is dealing with the position papers as called for in Resolution 12.

Resolution 18. Study Committee Re: Home Missions Director on the Executive Presbytery

George Wood read Resolution 18 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The sense of urgency and imminence of our Lord's return has given all of us an increased awareness of the scriptural mandate of missions at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God has always considered missions to be a primary purpose of its very existence; and

WHEREAS, Our Fellowship has no desire to imply by structural organization that to be part of Home Missions or Foreign Missions reflects a "greater than" or "lesser than" status in missions since we believe that all missions are of equal importance to our Lord who died for all; and

WHEREAS, Our Fellowship has wisely and appropriately given to our Division of Foreign Missions decision-making representation on the Executive Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, Our major strategy thrust in the United States for the Decade of Harvest calls for a planting of 5,000 new churches, reaching and winning 5,000,000 persons to Christ, and training and discipling 20,000 persons for ministry: all these goals are integrally and inseparably

ably linked to our Division of Home Missions and its various ministries; and

WHEREAS, The placement of the national director of the Division of Home Missions on the Executive Presbytery would advance our desire for consistency in our esteem of all appointed home and foreign missionaries, give them equal representation at the highest level of our organizational structure, and assure them that maximum input and communication take place at the highest decision-making level in our Fellowship; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery be directed to make whatever study of this matter it deems appropriate, and that the results of that study be reported to the 1991 General Council with enabling language for necessary amendments to the General Council Constitution and Bylaws.

The motion was seconded and discussion followed relative to the presentation of this matter in previous years.

A motion prevailed to table Resolution 18.

Resolution 19. AIDS

George Wood read Resolution 19 and moved its adoption.

The motion was seconded. It was moved and seconded to amend line 20 by inserting, "Clearly the origin and spread of this horrible disease is attributable to behavior which the Bible calls detestable and a perversion (Leviticus 18:22,23)," after the first sentence, and change the word "many" to "some" on line 21 and on line 21 insert the word "specific" before the word "sin." The motion to amend was lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 19 was carried.

Resolution 19 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) has resulted in the deaths of over 54,400 people in the USA during the 1980s*; and

WHEREAS, There are an estimated 2 million Americans currently infected with the AIDS virus; and

WHEREAS, There are projected to be 10 million Americans infected with the AIDS virus by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, There is at the present time no medical cure; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the following statement be adopted by this General Council:

With heavy hearts we have watched the tragic spread of AIDS across our nation and around the world. The Church of Jesus Christ cannot idly stand by while thousands perish. The church is faced with a tremendous opportunity for ministry to people with AIDS and their families and friends. God has called the church to follow

in the steps of Jesus both in attitude and behavior. We recognize that Christ alone has the message of hope for those living with AIDS.

Compassion for those in need does not mean we approve of the sin that caused many to contract this disease. But we also recognize that many have contracted AIDS through no sin of their own. AIDS reminds us of the tragic consequences of sin and the need for a merciful Heavenly Father. We call on our churches to set aside attitudes of prejudice, fear, and apathy, and put on the Christ-like qualities of compassion, love, and courage.

We call on our churches both corporately and individually to minister to those with AIDS. This mission can be accomplished through educating our congregations, providing practical help to persons with AIDS (for example, through support groups), and above all, to pray for those affected by this disease. We call on our churches to minister with compassion and sensitivity to the families of those affected by AIDS. We call on our churches to develop and publicize a church policy statement on AIDS which reflects God's call for holy living and His compassion for all mankind.

We call on our colleges to prepare their students to minister to those affected by AIDS.

We call on our churches to boldly proclaim to our youth God's plan for sexual expression—to abstain from sexual immorality and the trap of drug abuse.

We pray that in this dark hour of tragedy the light of Christ will shine brightly from our lives and our churches.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery take action to assist churches in dealing practically with AIDS-related questions and help churches to better minister to persons affected with or by AIDS.

*Center for Disease Control statistics as of April 30, 1989.

Resolution 20. Racism

George Wood read Resolution 20 and moved its adoption.

The motion was seconded. A motion was made and seconded to amend at the end of line 13 by changing the semicolon to a comma and adding these words: "including hatred of the Jewish people, a phenomenon commonly called anti-Semitism."

An amendment to the amendment was proposed to add after Jewish, two words, "or Arab" and then striking the words "a phenomenon commonly called anti-Semitism."

Discussion centered on the advisability of using terminologies which might imperil the work of Assemblies of God missionaries. In view of this possibility, it was moved and seconded to table the amendment, the amendment to the amendment, and the entire resolution. The motion to table was lost.

The motion to amend the amendment was voted on and was lost.

The motion to amend was voted on and declared lost.

It was moved and seconded to amend lines 13, 16, and 20 by addition of the words "the sin of" before racism. The motion carried.

It was moved and seconded to amend by the deletion of lines 14-24, placing a period at the end of line 13. The motion was lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 20 as amended was carried.

Resolution 20 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, Racism is an issue that continues to confront the church and American society today; and

WHEREAS, Racism continues to confront our brothers and sisters in other countries; and

WHEREAS, The Bible recognizes that all people are created in God's image (Genesis 1:27; 5:1,2); and

WHEREAS, The Bible declares that the barriers that separate us from one another have been broken down through Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:26-28, Colossians 3:11); and

WHEREAS, In the Early Church the Holy Spirit confronted divisions along racial lines and brought reconciliation (Acts 6:1-7; 10:1-22); therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Assemblies of God oppose the sin of racism in any form; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call any and all to repentance who have participated in the sin of racism through personal thought or action, or through church and social structures, or through inactivity in addressing racism as individuals or as a church; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we pray for God to give us the courage to confront the sin of racism where it may be found in our own lives, in our churches, in our society structures, and in our world; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we participate with the work of the Holy Spirit in actively working against racism at home and abroad, and that we seek the reconciliation of man to God and man to man.

Resolution 21. Committee To Study the Function of the Evangelist

George Wood presented Resolution 21 and moved its adoption. It was seconded.

A motion was made and seconded to amend by the addition of an item "4" on page 46 which will read: 4. Charge this committee with also giving attention to examination of models of evangelism other than the traditional church revival meeting. This amendment was lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 21 was carried.

Resolution 21 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The ministry of the evangelist is recognized in the New Testament and is placed with that of pastors and teachers; and

WHEREAS, Historically the ministry of the evangelist has been vital in the 20th century Pentecostal revival in general and the Assemblies of God in particular; and

WHEREAS, There exists an urgent need for a more definitive understanding of the role of the evangelist, especially as we enter the Decade of Harvest; and

WHEREAS, Our Bible schools, colleges, and graduate schools have a strong emphasis on training pastors, missionaries, Christian education directors, music directors, and children's workers; and

WHEREAS, Anointed young people thusly called should be encouraged to dedicate their lives to the work of the evangelist; and

WHEREAS, Nearly 2,000 are listed as evangelists in the official list of ministers and missionaries of The General Council of the Assemblies of God; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this 43rd General Council authorize and direct the Executive Presbytery to appoint a committee to study the function of the evangelist in the light of Scripture and in the context of contemporary evangelistic strategy. Said committee shall give particular attention to:

1. The training of evangelists in our Bible schools, colleges, and graduate schools and how such training can be expanded.

2. How evangelists can be integrated more fully into the evangelistic strategies of the Assemblies of God, including the Decade of Harvest.

3. The suitability of the creation of a new headquarters agency for the office of the evangelist as a vehicle for more effective ministry by the evangelist throughout our Fellowship. Said committee shall report to the Executive Presbytery and to the 44th General Council in 1991. Their report shall include specific proposals to be considered and acted upon by that Council.

Spiritual Life Committee Report

A motion prevailed to receive the report of the Spiritual Life Committee as circulated earlier in the meeting.

It was recommended that if possible the document be read during the evening service. The chairman stated that this request would be taken under advisement.

The report of the Spiritual Life Committee is as follows:

This is a great hour! Our Fellowship now enters a decade of spiritual harvest. Should Jesus tarry, the coming years will be exciting years of unprecedented sowing and reaping. Out of today's darkness will come light.

George Gallup has deplored that "never in history has religion made so many inroads, yet had so little impact." On the other hand, this morally disintegrating, secular society has impacted and influenced our

church. We admit that the attitudes, values, and philosophies of our secular society seem tightly woven into the warp and woof of the fabric of our churches. We must reciprocate. Assemblies of God churches must powerfully impact and influence our communities and cities with righteousness.

A LOOKING BACK

Preparation for a successful Decade of Harvest requires that we look back—look back to our roots. While we are admonished to “forget those things which are behind,” we are also urged to “remember the rock from which we were hewn.”

While our Pentecostal roots are deeply embedded in the soil of the New Testament writings, the roots of our Fellowship are traced to 300 Pentecostal pioneers in 1914. With deep thanksgiving to God, we acknowledge their unswerving commitment to the authority of the Word, to prayer, dependence on the Spirit, separated life-style, and world evangelism.

Let us seek God for a like commitment and passion that burned in the hearts of the Hot Springs conferees and early Assemblies of God ministers.

A LOOKING WITHIN

We are keenly aware that the spiritual temperature of a fellowship is measured not by its past record, but by its present relationship with the Lord. Therefore let us also look in—look in to see our need for revival.

Let us admit that in far too many churches there is a dearth of Holy Spirit fire, genuine enthusiasm, holy expectation, and inspiring worship to Jesus. Many people stay away from church services because they find no compelling reason to attend. We need revival.

Let us admit that as we look in we see too many leaders (lay and clergy) who are discouraged and tired. This results in dissension in the pew and frustration in the pulpit. We need the strength only God will provide as we wait upon Him. We need revival.

Let us admit that the powerful Sunday night service which has contributed greatly to our past growth is being weakened, or, in some cases, eliminated. We must provide opportunities for all, including the young, to experience the dynamics of a powerful prayer service. As we have heard during this General Council, “Revival is just on the other side of the prayer meeting.” We need revival.

Let us admit that many of us have become proud, self-reliant, and ministerially mechanical. Let us humble ourselves sincerely and open our hearts to the fresh wind of the Holy Spirit and to regular reading of the Word. We encourage our pastors to tie into the Bible reading emphasis “Take 10 in ‘90.” As we approach the Decade of Harvest, we must encourage our people toward a more consistent and regular

practice of reading God’s Word for spiritual strength and stability. We need revival.

We know that the Decade of Harvest is not another program of a large and growing institutional church. Programs cannot produce a genuine revival.

As we look in, we see that the vast majority in our constituency are hungry for a genuine Spirit-led, Christ-exalting revival. O Lord, send the fire!

A LOOKING OUTWARD

We must look outward. Our theme for 1990 is “Look on the Fields.” We must look outward and see a lost and dying world for whom we are responsible. We have been powerfully reminded during the General Council that the primary purpose of the baptism in the Holy Spirit is witnessing for Jesus Christ.

We urge our evangelists and pastors to encourage, inspire, and train each member of our congregations to be an effective witness. The Latin American revival in large part is a result of the fact that each believer is a preacher, a proclaimer of the good news. Pastors, evangelists, district officials, missionaries, and lay leaders must be the example of personal, fervent witness of Jesus Christ.

We who preach and teach must “throw out the net,” expecting a catch. Few things excite a congregation more than seeing people being saved during the week and on Sundays.

A LOOKING UPWARD

Finally, we must look upward for our redemption is drawing nigh! Christ’s return is imminent. He is our strength, our wisdom, and our sufficiency. He will provide the needed and desired results. He will give the increase. He will build His Church! He will do exceeding above all we ask or think. Faithful is He who called us who also will do it.

RESPONSE

We look back with deep appreciation and thanksgiving at our roots. We give praise for our godly heritage, for our dedicated spiritual forefathers.

We sense our need for revival and look into our hearts. We repent of our self-reliance and prayerlessness. We admit that our churches are, to some measure, more alive socially than spiritually.

We look outward and accept responsibility for our fellowman. We believe our world is reachable and we are responsible to witness to them with the power of the Holy Spirit.

We look up and declare our help comes from the Lord. We are not able, we are not sufficient, but our Lord is more than able and He is all sufficient. We yield ourselves to Him fully. We commit the results to Him. We will be faithful.

Procedural Motion

It was moved and seconded that since there is some remaining business, the meeting recess at this time and reconvene immediately following the evening service. This motion lost.

Decade of Harvest Report

A motion prevailed to authorize the Executive Presbytery to receive the Decade of Harvest Report, originally given to the General Presbytery, on behalf of the General Council.

The Decade of Harvest Report is as follows:

Without question, the Assemblies of God has received a divine vision and mandate for the 1990s. When I assumed my responsibilities as national director, I found a Fellowship in the throes of enthusiastic anticipation.

A great deal of credit needs to be given to the National Harvest Task Force under the leadership of Robert Schmidgall in the early days of the awakening vision. In addition, the general superintendent and Executive Presbytery gave necessary impetus and approval to initial plans. Through their cooperative efforts, the entire Movement was positioned to accept further direction. I am heartened by past developments and present cooperation.

Perhaps I can bring focus to my report by attempting to answer three questions concerning the Decade of Harvest.

What is happening?—On the national level excellent progress has been made in all vital areas in the preparatory stage. The level of spiritual vision and faith is being maintained and growing.

We are seeking to keep the Decade of Harvest administratively simple to avoid creating and getting bogged down in an unwieldy structure.

The National Harvest Task Force has helped me to set parameters and priorities. For instance, we have decided not to take responsibility for church growth directly. We felt church growth would become an end result as we worked to meet our four stated goals. We are not going to create official Decade of Harvest ministers such as evangelists, clinicians, educators, etc. The Task Force is seeking to maintain the purity of the original goals in order to keep from becoming too scattered. You would be surprised how many goals have been suggested as worthy additions to our four original goals. You would also be surprised how many suggestions we have received to add representative people to the National Harvest Task Force. Early on, it was decided to designate the Task Force in a leadership mode and not as a primarily representative body. In our next meeting, the National Harvest Task Force will be dealing with the role of the evangelist and evangelism as an agenda emphasis.

Our in-house committee, consisting of all members of the National

Task Force employed at headquarters, meet at the will of the director. Their function is to facilitate policies and products authorized by the National Harvest Task Force. Their cooperation has been a personal strength to me.

My staff consists of four excellent full-time people; namely, an editor, Sue Montgomery; a personal secretary, Shelly Mackey; an editorial assistant, Mary Michels, and a clerk-typist/products secretary, Debbie Combs. Charles Denton, my assistant director, has given uncounted hours of his time to this ministry in addition to his other duties. There is no way I could have accomplished close to what God has enabled us to do without the help of Charles Denton.

My personal life and ministry have been revolutionized. I have moved from California to Missouri. I have become a part-time evangelist, administrator, fund-raiser, writer, and motivator. I love every minute of it, because of my divine appointment. At the present time I am traveling close to two-thirds of the time across the nation and speaking in every conceivable forum.

On the district level, I have determined that 40 out of the 57 districts are on course and in some instances even ahead of schedule. Most districts have their Task Forces in place and are hard at work laying plans to enter the nineties with clear objectives and good strategies. Pray with me that districts who are not as yet committed to the Decade of Harvest as their spiritual agenda and top priority for the decade will grasp this divine opportunity with enthusiasm.

The following districts have appointed full-time Decade of Harvest directors: Northern California-Nevada, Minnesota, and Potomac.

We have sent out over one million prayer cards by request. Everywhere I go I find people and churches in prayer. Several district superintendents have told me they have never seen such a high level of prayer activity in their districts. The only disappointment with the prayer cards is a reluctance on the part of many to return them. We are doing everything possible to motivate people to mail their cards back. The Executive Presbytery again decreed the names on the cards cannot be used by us or anyone else for fund-raising. Only the information concerning the *Pentecostal Evangel* can be taken from the cards. You can help us by encouraging the churches and pastors of your district to make an effort to return the cards to my office.

We have developed some interesting materials and products in time for the General Council; among them, the 1990 Decade of Harvest leadership manual, One-Year Bible, various brochures, prayer guides, recommended evangelism materials, videos, and memorabilia. These will be available at the Decade of Harvest giant display booth or at the General Council bookstore.

What must happen?—This is the key question. I have earnestly

prayed for guidance in addressing the question. My response is not a group of ideas but deep convictions.

One—Every person in a leadership role—local, district, and national—must be specific in what he or she believes God wants to accomplish through them in the Decade of Harvest and then follow with a specific plan in how they are going to reach those goals.

A harvest speaks of hard work. God is not going to perform miracles as a substitute for human instrumentality and consecrated effort. Each leader must take responsibility for his or her part of the harvest. The harvest is a call to productivity through labor with God.

I appeal to every leader to go beyond wishful thinking to a sincere cry of the heart, "Lord, what would you have me do?" and then rise up through God and make it happen.

A large majority of Assemblies of God leaders and constituents must be translated into personal responsibility for action. As January 1, 1990, stares us in the face, the time for nonproductive talk must come to an end. It is time for action. During 1988 and 1989 God has given the Assemblies of God a set of blueprints and specs called the Decade of Harvest. We have counted the cost. We are committing resources. The die is cast. Now is the time to begin building together. May our response to a thousand calls to other interests and priorities be the cry of Nehemiah, "We are doing a great work, so that we cannot come down: Why should the work cease?"

Two—Every leader and every pastor must become a role model of Christ-like character and Pentecostal ministry. We must move into a whole new dimension of training. We must perfect the saints for the work of the ministry by not just telling them what to do and how to live but by showing them.

Do leaders and pastors want Assemblies of God people to seek God and enter into intercessory prayer? It will only happen when those of us with spiritual authority and responsibility become so disciplined in prayer and hungry for God our people will say, "Teach us to pray."

Do leaders and pastors want Assemblies of God people to be effective soul winners? It will only happen when credentialed ministers become so exercised over the lostness of man, so moved by the love of God, they begin leading people to Christ outside the pulpit.

This principle is true in reaching every goal of the Decade of Harvest. Our pastors and leaders must not expect their people to do what they are told. People will only respond to what they are shown.

Three—We must find ways and means to give priority and prime time to prayer and the Word in our district meetings, seminars, camps, etc. Too often prayer meetings are scheduled early in the morning or late at night when the majority of people are distracted, sleepy, or weary from a long day of activity. Could it be possible to have prayer meetings after breakfast or in place of entertainment? Could we keep

promotions, fund-raising, and special programs to a minimum; leaving quality time for waiting on God following the preaching of the Word in our great rallies? Could we have an "open-ended" prayer meeting during at least one night at all district functions when no after-service functions are planned or promoted? We must come to grips with what we want in our churches and districts and be willing to pay the price for attaining these goals. I believe there is an incredible hunger for God in our Fellowship. I believe if we make quality time available for our people to hear the Word and wait on God they will respond.

Four—The financial undergirding for the Decade of Harvest is a necessary factor in seeing our goals met. A majority of districts are sending monthly commitments to assist in meeting the financial needs in the national office. Our task for the remainder of 1989 is to encourage all of our churches to be involved to some degree in making a systematic contribution to the ministry.

Our district directors and leaders are keys to encouraging the churches to give. World Ministries Giving credit is being given for these Decade of Harvest contributions.

The ultimate goal is close to \$1 million a year. This is necessary to maintain a five-person staff, including myself; travel for National Harvest Task Force members to Springfield and for myself (to the present time, whenever my wife and I have traveled, there has been enough to cover all of our travel expenses through the generosity of those who invite us. I anticipate more travel for Decade of Harvest training seminars and other nationally-sponsored events without reimbursement starting in 1990). Other costs include six bimonthly supplements in the *Pentecostal Evangel*, promotional items, numerous free materials, and the inevitable unexpected costs of responding to unusual expenses.

The Executive Presbytery and steering committee for the General Council activities have been most gracious in suggesting the final offering on Sunday night be received for the Decade of Harvest, national. Please pray with us that there will be a real financial miracle. The offering envelope will give opportunity for individuals to make monthly commitments.

Five—District superintendents and presbyteries will be facing some difficult situations from time to time in the area of church planting.

Some areas of the country have pockets of resistance to the establishment of new churches. I am not advocating we throw open the door to every person who wants to start a new church. I am advocating we seek to encourage an open door policy to worthy church planters and preach the message of no territorial rights during the Decade of Harvest.

One possessive or influential pastor should not be allowed to stand in the way of a new church in his area if the majority of the pastors in his section feel a new church is warranted.

I appeal to district superintendents to do their best in creating a good climate in which to plant and grow new churches.

Some have asked, "Why plant new churches when we need to strengthen our small and struggling churches first?"

My answer is this. It is not an either-or situation but a both-and situation. If we have 17,000 churches at the end of the harvest, we will continue to have more small struggling works, but we will also have more dynamic and growing congregations. We cannot afford to wait for all the weak to become strong. We must continue to believe God for new life, while we strengthen those who are declining.

Six—Above all else, we must continue to seek God for a Pentecostal revival of unprecedented power. It is not so much we need to "go back" but to move ahead to meet the divinely ordained goals of the Decade of Harvest under the enablement of the Holy Spirit.

There is no question in my mind that the sovereign Head of the Church is giving the Assemblies of God a golden moment in church history to be the channel for national and international evangelism.

We have been given anointing and authority. It is now in our hands, under God, what we will achieve in the coming decade.

As I face the 1990s, I am gripped by the crises of opportunity. Never before has this Fellowship found itself so poised for spiritual leadership. The demise of many national ministries and the malaise of doctrinal error coupled with a deepening need and hunger for God inside and outside the church has brought us to an unprecedented challenge.

What are some of the challenges facing us?—The Decade of Harvest has surfaced some powerful dynamics which need to be addressed with real faith and a cooperative spirit. It would be naive to think we can forever solve all of the problems arising from these challenges, but we could certainly make significant progress. I wish to mention some of the areas, not necessarily in order of importance.

The Challenge of Foreign Language and Ethnic Groups. From the very beginning of my assignment as national director, I have felt a strong conviction we must minister to and cooperate with the burgeoning growth of our ethnic populations in order to reach our goals. Some excellent steps have already been taken by the Executive Presbytery to address the need for better communication, including the establishment of an Hispanic liaison with that body.

It is imperative all our district leaders seek to communicate and involve more and more ethnics into the body and to work in close harmony with foreign language and geographic districts. At the present time, over 12 percent of our entire Fellowship is Hispanic and the number is growing rapidly. Many of our major population centers are fast becoming populated with varied ethnic groups. Our Fellowship should give serious consideration to new strategies on every level to

effectively evangelize and disciple these great mission fields within our borders.

The Challenge of the Evangelist in the Assemblies of God. There is a great deal of frustration in this particular area of our Fellowship. On the one hand, more and more churches have closed the door on any kind of protracted meeting or keep outside speakers to a minimum of Sunday through Wednesday. On the other hand, the enormous costs of operations make it imperative for our evangelists to stay busy. Most important, a true evangelist does not want to do anything else.

Some of the areas we will need to address and questions answered in the Decade of Harvest in light of our 5 million new converts are as follows:

1. Better defining what a true evangelist is. Is the designation to be limited to those who proclaim the gospel to the lost and equip the saints for personal evangelism? Should we make a careful distinction between revivalists and evangelists? How can we better designate all itinerant ministries?

2. Encourage the evangelist and promote a new wave of evangelistic effort. The evangelist is a gift to the church. Our churches somehow must be motivated to once again discover the powerful impact an evangelist can make upon the local church. How do we get our churches to prepare spiritually for an evangelistic emphasis? How can we motivate pastors to seek God for just the right evangelist to come to his or her church? How can we encourage churches to give financially to the evangelist, especially among smaller churches?

3. Challenge the evangelists to be at their best spiritually and seek ways and means to be more effective. It will be necessary for evangelists to accept where they are most effective. Some are most effective in large city churches; others are more effective in the smaller rural churches. The role of the evangelist is going to be vital during the Decade of Harvest.

The Challenge of Ministerial Training and Placement. In order to nurture and maximize the 20,000 people we believe God will call to the ministry, we must encourage quality training and then do everything possible to assist in placing our ministers.

In all the goals for the Decade of Harvest there is a concern for quality and not just quantity in reaching this goal. This category calls for an excellence above all of the others. Our ministers, if effective, can do more to perfect the saints for the ministry during the decade than any other group.

Our Bible schools, liberal arts colleges, and seminaries are being challenged to continue turning out well-balanced, Pentecostal graduates. Our Movement needs to undergird our learning institutions with prayer, emotional support, and financial support. A strong nationwide commitment to education is a must during the Decade of Harvest.

Efforts are now under way to enhance distance education through correspondence and learning centers. New educational tools are being explored. I have been gratified by the willingness of our schools to assist in taking accredited and nontraditional education to the people. Ongoing ministerial enrichment programs are being put in place.

One of the most complex problems is placement. Hundreds of students are released for ministry at one time and district offices are often inundated with requests by graduates needing to be placed. Some districts are short of qualified ministers while others have too many.

At the School of Church Planting in January, our district and educational leaders will seek to address this challenge. Please pray with us for ways and means to ease the problem. I believe the Decade of Harvest can be used as a catalyst for district offices and schools to work together in new creative ways to help place our ministers.

The Challenge of Inner-City and Trans-District Church Planting. Great opportunities await the Assemblies of God as we address the challenge of our great urban centers. The rural areas of America have need of strong district programs to address dwindling populations and unique problems so as not to neglect the lost.

It is my contention, however, that trans-district and national strategies must address the problem of penetrating the inner cities with the gospel. Strong districts must be able to send help and give assistance to smaller districts confronted with massive populations and high costs. We must begin looking at the inner cities as places to plant new church bodies, not desert them.

Anglo church bodies must begin to respond to the changing cultures. Some Anglo churches can meet the challenge directly by absorbing different ethnic groups into their church. Others will move to the suburbs, but I beg church leaders to do everything possible to see the Assemblies of God witness remain by granting use of facilities to ethnic groups and providing strong leadership.

We must look at the inner city as a fertile harvest field. We must begin taking responsibility for the lost of our nation. A great foreign mission field has moved to America.

It is a privilege to be the director of the Decade of Harvest. It is my earnest prayer I can be used of God to be a catalyst for revival. I would be honored if each member of the General Presbytery would covenant with me to pray daily for the spiritual tide to rise to such an extent that by the end of the nineties, if Jesus should tarry, millions of lost and dying souls would be swept into the Kingdom.

My final comment to the General Presbytery is in the form of a plea.

Please allow God to grip your hearts as one man with the incredible possibilities this Movement has been sovereignly given by the Lord of the harvest.

Please let nothing deter you from the vision from heaven. It is the divine agenda for the Assemblies of God for the 1990s.

Please unite in holy faith and be bold to declare the Decade of Harvest as a powerful, Pentecostal mission.

Please refuse the carping, unbelief, and criticisms of the carnal and determine to overcome evil with good.

Please join me in making any personal sacrifice necessary to be used of God and to be found worthy to fulfill our part in God's program.

Please refuse to accept the unacceptable. Let us refuse to accept shoddy Christian life-styles, apathetic church members, lifeless church services, secular humanism, and materialistic idolatry. Instead, let us rise up and contend for personal holiness, Spirit-filled believers, church services electrified with the evident presence of God, a new revelation of the lostness of man and the finished work of Christ, a new articulation of the blessed hope, and every constituent fulfilling his/her purpose for being. Ministry: ministry to the Lord, ministry to the world, and ministry to the church. Welcome to the most exciting decade in the history of the Assemblies of God—the Decade of Harvest!

Resolution 37. Resolution of Appreciation

George Wood read Resolution 37 and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution 37 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The 43rd General Council of the Assemblies of God has been accorded great kindness and hospitality by officials and agencies of Indianapolis, and the Indiana District Council as the host district; and

WHEREAS, This 75th anniversary celebration has indeed given us opportunity to Review, Rejoice, and Renew; and

WHEREAS, Numerous persons, committees, and agencies have combined efforts to offer efficient services; and

WHEREAS, Many have given generously of their talents and time in the interest of assuring the well-being of delegates and visitors and the success of this Council; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That appreciation be expressed to our host district, Indiana, to its superintendent, Charles Crank, and to the City of Indianapolis, the Indianapolis Convention and Tourism Bureau, the Hoosier Dome Convention Center and facilities, the Westin and Hyatt Regency Hotels, and all other hotels, motels, restaurants, and travel parks, the Indianapolis Police Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we express our appreciation to Tony Bauer for the lighting system; to Wilking Music Company for supplying the pianos and organs; to Bruce Lood for the video production and equipment; to Stage Two for the sound; and further that we are grateful to the media and press corps who have objectively and thoroughly covered

news from the General Council and the management and staff of the Diversa Webb Printing Company for publishing the *Council Today* newspaper; and be it further

RESOLVED, That appreciation be expressed to General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson, Assistant General Superintendent Everett Stenhouse, the officers and members of the Executive Presbytery for their leadership; and the other General Council personnel for efficiency in the planning, support, and the implementation of the numerous details for all services rendered; and to all who ministered unto the Lord and edified His people with anointed preaching, inspired songs, and talented music; for a most enjoyable and spiritual Council; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we affirm our thankfulness to the Lord for His significant presence and leadership experienced in this 43rd General Council—May His Name be praised!

Adjournment

A motion prevailed that the 43rd General Council be adjourned at 5:40 p.m., Saturday, August 12. Assistant General Superintendent Everett Stenhouse dismissed in prayer.

SATURDAY EVENING—AUGUST 12

The emphasis for the Saturday evening service was on the baptism in the Holy Ghost. Almon Bartholomew served as chairman, and Paul Ferrin led the congregational singing. Herman Rohde, executive presbyter from the North Central Area, read the Scripture from Acts 1:6-8; 2:1-4; and 2:46,47, and H. Glynn Hall, president of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, led in prayer. Miriam Reynolds, First Assembly of God, Ottawa, Kansas, and Jonathan Faggart, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Concord, North Carolina, served at the piano and organ, respectively. Special music for the evening service was provided by a choir of students from Assemblies of God colleges directed by Tom McDonald, minister of music, Trinity Assembly of God, Lutherville, Maryland. The offering appeal was given by Thomas E. Trask and the offertory was presented by the combined college choir. World Ministries Giving awards were presented by Thomas E. Trask.

The speaker for the evening was Gene Jackson, superintendent of the Tennessee District. Prior to his message his daughter Jana Jackson presented a vocal solo. Brother Jackson began his message with the Acts 19 account of Paul's ministry and believers' reception of the baptism in the Holy Spirit. His message showed that in the church or the believer who is full of the Holy Ghost: There is a difference in power; a difference in purpose; and a difference in purity.

SUNDAY MORNING—AUGUST 13

Thomas E. Trask was in charge of the Memorial and Communion Ser-

vice, which began at 9:45 a.m. The overreaching theme of the General Council was "Review, Rejoice, and Renew." The theme was used for the Memorial/Communion Service. Joseph R. Flower, general secretary, read the Scripture from 1 Corinthians 15:51-58 and Hebrews 12:1,2. Paul Ferrin led the congregational singing. The speaker was Everett Stenhouse, assistant general superintendent. Phil Pfaltzgraff, minister of music, Brightmoor Tabernacle, Southfield, Michigan, served at the organ and Kenton Lee, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Tacoma, Washington, was at the piano. The offering appeal was made by William Leach, Michigan District superintendent. The offertory was presented by Betty Johnson, Memphis, Tennessee, and Randy Wright, Springfield, Missouri. Special music for the service was provided by the Ohio Men's Choir, directed by Dan Wood, and the Singing Parsons Quartet consisting of Edwin Anderson, Springfield, Missouri; Mark Gaston, Laverne, California; Elmer Bilton, Kansas City, Missouri; and Don Waggoner, Peoria, Arizona.

In Memoriam

Joseph R. Flower presided during a visual presentation of the names of deceased ministers.

The following list includes all whose names had been reported to the general secretary's office from June 13, 1987, to June 15, 1989.

ADCOCK, EARL L., Memphis, Tenn.
AGUILAR, ENRIQUE, Chicago, Ill.
ALCORN, JAMES W., McKinleyville, Calif.
ALDERMAN, EVA H., Virginia Beach, Va.
AMUNDSON, CHARLES E., Minneapolis, Minn.
ANDERSON, BRADLEY M., Yellville, Ark.
ANDERSON, H. EPHRAIM, South Africa
ANDERSON, WALTER C., Broadhead, Wis.
ARBIZU, FRANCISCO R., El Salvador
ATKINSON, HOMER H., Cape Girardeau, Mo.
AUSBURY, HAROLD G., Mercersburg, Pa.
AVERITT, WILLIAM R., Fort Worth, Tex.
AYERS, RABON C., Shreveport, La.
BADGER, MYRTLE L., Lakeport, Calif.
BAKER, FLAVEL, Perryton, Tex.
BAKER, FLOYD W., Chowchilla, Calif.
BALL, HENRY C., San Antonio, Tex.
BANE, ERNEST A., Montgomery, Ala.
BARG, EDWIN G., Pensacola, Fla.
BARKER, MYRTLE, Fredericktown, Mo.
BARKO, JOHN A., Mobile, Ala.
BARNES, JOHNNIE, Springfield, Mo.
BARNETTE, ARVILLA, Buxton, N.C.

BAXTER, LEWIS M., Sweet Home, Oreg.
 BEARD, CARL H., New Orleans, La.
 BEAUFORD, WESLEY V., Seminole, Okla.
 BELL, EARL L., Dolan Springs, Ariz.
 BENIGAS, ANTHONY, Osborne, Kans.
 BENTZ, HERBERT G., Wapato, Wash.
 BERGLUND, ETHEL M., Brooks, Oreg.
 BERKEY, DONALD E., Central City, Pa.
 BERLIN, ROSE M., Springfield, Mo.
 BERQUIST, DAVID A., Williamsport, Md.
 BISHOP, CAMILLE, Woodward, Okla.
 BLAIR, MARY, Barberton, Ohio
 BLALACK, LOYAL E., Hector, Ark.
 BLEACHER, ELMER C., Castro Valley, Calif.
 BOATRIGHT, RAYMOND V., Huntsville, Ark.
 BOLIN, YOUNG J., Columbus, Ga.
 BONILLA, JOVITA T., Buena Park, Calif.
 BOYCE, STRAUD T., Blue Springs, Mo.
 BOYD, HELEN, Shrewsbury, Pa.
 BRACEWELL, MELVIN SR., Lake City, Fla.
 BRADSHAW, LAURENCE, Sacramento, Calif.
 BRANHAM, DANIEL C., Neosho, Mo.
 BRESHEARS, CORA A., Bolivar, Mo.
 BRIGHT, LILLIE F., Lowell, Ark.
 BROOKS, NOAL W., Wichita Falls, Tex.
 BROWN, JOHN L., Milton, Fla.
 BROWN, SAMMIE W., Spiro, Okla.
 BRUCE, MOLLIE M., Fayetteville, Ark.
 BRUMBACK, CARL, Luray, Va.
 BRUMFIELD, MOUNCE J., Albuquerque, N. Mex.
 BRUTON, JACK A., Espanola, N. Mex.
 BUENO, THEODORE, Hughson, Calif.
 BULLOCK, AMELIA J., Lakeland, Fla.
 BULLOCK, RELNA A., Brooks, Oreg.
 BUNTAIN, D. MARK, Springfield, Mo.
 BURGESS, LACY L. JR., Athens, Ga.
 BURK, DALLAS L., Russellville, Ark.
 BURKET, LEONARD E., Center Moriches, N.Y.
 BURNS, GLORA A., Troy, Kans.
 BUSBEE, LOUIS C., Milton, Fla.
 BYRD, RALPH P., Atlanta, Ga.
 CABELLO, Z. R. JR., San Antonio, Tex.
 CANON, LEONARD O., Houston, Tex.
 CARLSEN, SANFORD E., Springfield, Mo.
 CARLSON, HENRY C., Downey, Calif.

CARWILE, OSCAR E., Caseyville, Ill.
 CASE, JOHN W., Greenville, Ky.
 CATLEDGE, LORRAINE L., Fresno, Calif.
 CHAMORRO, ELIAS, San Jose, Calif.
 CHILDS, HENRY L., Winter Haven, Fla.
 CLARK, CHARLIE, Modesto, Calif.
 CLEMENS, JOHNNY M., North Little Rock, Ark.
 CLEMENT, JOHN J., Edmonds, Wash.
 COCHRANE, HATTIE I., Baldwin Park, Calif.
 COLEMAN, MARVIN H., Keyser, W. Va.
 CONDER, MARION K., Louisville, Ky.
 CORY, MAURICE R., Hallock, Minn.
 COX, CLINTON E., Lakeland, Fla.
 COXE, PAUL H., Rialto, Calif.
 CREWS, VERNE J., Aurora, Colo.
 CUMMINGS, W. EARL, Phoenix, Ariz.
 CURTIS, GRACE H., Irving, Tex.
 DALTON, FRED A., Thompson Falls, Mont.
 D'ANDREA, DONATO, Dunmore, Pa.
 DAVIS, ANNIE L., Victoria, Tex.
 DAVIS, SHERMAN L., Odessa, Tex.
 DAVIS, WILLIAM E., Richardson, Tex.
 DEAN, RICHARD F. SR., Fort Lupton, Colo.
 DECKER, EMMA, West Germany
 DE LEON, MARIA, Dallas, Tex.
 DEMENT, D. WARREN, Haughton, La.
 DE SANCTIS, JOHN N., Fort Pierce, Fla.
 DE VRIES, CECILE V., Tualatin, Oreg.
 DE VRIES, HARRY A., Portland, Oreg.
 DEWEBER, JOHN A., Los Lunas, N. Mex.
 DICKEY, BILLY L., Jacksonville, Tex.
 DICKINSON, LESTER W., Springfield, Mo.
 DILLON, CHARLES N., North Tazewell, Va.
 DOHERTY, ROBERT T., Stockton, Calif.
 DORFF, MARCELLA A., Moorhead, Minn.
 DOWDY, LOWELL E., Tucson, Ariz.
 DOWNEY, HARRY G., Albany, Oreg.
 DRAKE, WESLEY F. SR., Morganville, N.J.
 DUHON, LEE, Bossier City, La.
 DUKES, GERTRUDE E., Oakridge, Oreg.
 DUNAGAN, GEORGE W., Salton City, Calif.
 DUNCAN, BELVIA I., Dixon, Mo.
 DUNNAHUE, T. I., Red Oak, Tex.
 EARP, HOMER S., Abilene, Tex.
 EKLUND, CHARLES JR., Bay Minette, Ala.

ELLIOTT, JEWEL W., Burkburnett, Tex.
 EMANUEL, WILLIAM E., Durant, Fla.
 EMERSON, RUSSELL R., Salem, Oreg.
 ERCKENBRACK, WILLIAM, Winlock, Wash.
 ESTES, LOUIE, East Alton, Ill.
 EVERLY, LEONARD J., Kisse Mills, Mo.
 FARMER, ALMA B., Kingsburg, Calif.
 FARMER, JOHN W., Lubbock, Tex.
 FAULKNER, RALPH D., Knoxville, Tenn.
 FENWICK, KENNETH M., Fresno, Calif.
 FERGUSON, C. F., Colorado Springs, Colo.
 FERRIL, WILLIAM R. K. JR., Torrance, Calif.
 FILBY, LEROY, Granite City, Ill.
 FINKENBINDER, FRANK O., Yuma, Colo.
 FLEMING, J. RALPH, Pasadena, Tex.
 FLEMING, PAUL A., Meridian, Idaho
 FLORECK, JOSEPH, Miami, Fla.
 FORRESTER, HAZEL M., Springfield, Mo.
 FOWLER, HENRY A., Bakersfield, Calif.
 FOX, LORNE F., Auberry, Calif.
 FOX, RAYMOND A., Wake Village, Tex.
 FRANCO, RALPH A., Camden, N.J.
 FREDERICKSEN, SOREN E., Orlando, Fla.
 FREITAG, GEORGE A., Austin, Tex.
 FRIEDERICI, ANNA P., Springfield, Mo.
 FULLER, CYRUS L., Wichita Falls, Tex.
 FULLER, J. ROY, Lone Grove, Okla.
 FUTCH, ANCIL Z., Quincy, Fla.
 GARLAND, HERMAN D., Glendora, Calif.
 GARZA, NORBERTO, Del Rio, Tex.
 GATLIN, NETTIE M., Tallahassee, Fla.
 GEORGE, WILLIAM J., Columbia, Mo.
 GIBSON, THOMAS E., Memphis, Tex.
 GIBSON, VERNAL D., Collinsville, Ill.
 GILBERT, JULIUS, Auburn, Calif.
 GILLEN, CECYLE L., Baytown, Tex.
 GILLOCK, CECIL L., Odessa, Tex.
 GIVENS, BENJAMIN H., Live Oak, Calif.
 GLIDEWELL, WILLIE G., Dallas, Tex.
 GLOSSER, L. EVELYN, Crosby, N. Dak.
 GLOVER, LOIS L., Alamogordo, N. Mex.
 GLUNT, DAVID M., Baltimore, Ohio
 GODINO, FRANK, Livingston, N.J.
 GOODWIN, RUSSELL D. SR., St. Petersburg, Fla.
 GORDON, OTHA E., Bay Minette, Ala.

GOUVEIA, JOHN, Santa Cruz, Calif.
 GRAUBERGER, ELMER C., Las Vegas, Nev.
 GREEN, GRACE B., Redding, Calif.
 GREEN, ROSS H., Camdenton, Mo.
 GREGURICH, RUBY M., Comanche, Okla.
 GRIBLING, DELBERT E., Phoenix, Ariz.
 GRIBLING, LOIS M., Prescott, Ariz.
 GRIMES, ALBERT C., Eugene, Oreg.
 GRISSOM, JEFF D., Booneville, Ark.
 GROSSNICKLE, LOUIS L., Durant, Fla.
 GROUNDS, MURL D., Fort Worth, Tex.
 GUERRERO, MIKE T., La Habra, Calif.
 GUGE, LAWRENCE F., Hobbs, N. Mex.
 GUNTER, EVELYN C., Union City, Tenn.
 HADDOCK, C. E., Sacramento, Calif.
 HAGEE, BYTHEL, Channelview, Tex.
 HALL, FRANK J., Broken Arrow, Okla.
 HALLGRIMSON, ROSE, Bassett, Nebr.
 HAMILTON, OSCAR H., Davenport, Iowa
 HAND, WILLIAM E., Texarkana, Ark.
 HARDT, JOHN R., Tampa, Fla.
 HARDY, CECIL W., Elsberry, Mo.
 HARE, THOMAS E., Silsbee, Tex.
 HARRIS, J. W., Covington, Tenn.
 HARRISON, THOMAS F., Springfield, Mo.
 HARRUP, OBIE L. SR., Louisa, Va.
 HART, IDA G., Pearlinton, Miss.
 HARTZLER, HAROLD H., Shoreview, Minn.
 HARVEY, RUSSELL W., Clarksburg, W. Va.
 HARVEY, WILLIAM J., Midland, Tex.
 HASTIE, DALE C., Yucaipa, Calif.
 HAUPT, M. ISABELLE, Falling Waters, W. Va.
 HAWKINS, EDNA M., Whitney, Nebr.
 HELMS, TROY B., Clanton, Ala.
 HEMBREE, ELMER E., Maryland Heights, Mo.
 HENDRIX, JAMES A., Silsbee, Tex.
 HENSLEY, MARVIN, Mount Vernon, Ky.
 HERRERA, MAXIMO, Miami, Fla.
 HIRSCHY, WILLIS K., Phoenix, Ariz.
 HITCHCOCK, IDA B., Santa Cruz, Calif.
 HODGES, MELVIN L., Springfield, Mo.
 HOLEMAN, LOGAN A., Chandler, Tex.
 HOLLAND, ROBERT V., El Dorado, Ark.
 HOLLIS, PRESTON F., Coffeyville, Kans.
 HOLMSTROM, O. ALFRED, Des Moines, Iowa

HORNER, J. T., Decatur, Tex.
 HOWARD, MILDRED S., Galt, Calif.
 HOWE, LEROY, Davidsonville, Md.
 HOY, ALBERT L., Costa Mesa, Calif.
 HUBBARD, LINWOOD A., Woodsboro, Md.
 HUGHES, DAVID C., Vanduser, Mo.
 HUME, KEITH L., Dayton, Ohio
 INMAN, CHARLES R., Williston, S.C.
 IRELAND, LYLE N., Port Orchard, Wash.
 JACKSON, GEORGE A., Hattiesburg, Miss.
 JACKSON, MARY L., Dallas, Tex.
 JACOBS, TOMY T., Valliant, Okla.
 JAMES, FRED, Wichita Falls, Tex.
 JANICELLO, JOSEPH, Oceanside, N.Y.
 JAYNES, HOBSON H., Morganton, N.C.
 JENKINS, LOUIS W., St. Helen, Mich.
 JENNISON, EARLE V., Philo, Calif.
 JOHNS, ELWIN E., Weiser, Idaho
 JOHNSON, ALBERT L., Havana, Fla.
 JOHNSON, ALBIN G., Hemel, Calif.
 JOHNSON, ELVIN J., Tioga, Tex.
 JOHNSON, HERMAN G., Tacoma, Wash.
 JOHNSON, IRVING R., Front Royal, Va.
 JOHNSON, MAURINE L., Charleston, S.C.
 JOHNSON, WILLIE M., Fort Worth, Tex.
 JONES, EDWIN M., Sugarland, Tex.
 JONES, RAYMOND D., Palm Springs, Calif.
 KELLOGG, CARLTON E., Boise, Idaho
 KELLY, ALFORD E., Hurst, Tex.
 KEYS, AGNES, Springdale, Ark.
 KEYS, ANNABEL A., San Jose, Calif.
 KIM, WON GOO, Silver Spring, Md.
 KING, JAMES G. SR., New York, N.Y.
 KIRKLAND, JAMES D., Thomasville, Ga.
 KIRKMAN, LLOYD L., Evansville, Ind.
 KITCHELL, LON V., Oley, Pa.
 KRAKE, RICHARD W., Santa Cruz, Calif.
 LACK, JOSEPH P., Albany, Oreg.
 LAMB, IVERNA M., Salem, Oreg.
 LAWSON, HARVEY L., Plattsburg, Mo.
 LEE, ROBERT E., Houston, Tex.
 LEONARD, FRED P., Santa Ana, Calif.
 LEVINGSTON, CLYDE C., Burnet, Tex.
 LINDBLAD, CAROLYN A., Santa Cruz, Calif.
 LINEBARGER, E. D., Shady Point, Okla.

LITTLE, DEAN, Benton, La.
 LITTLE, ROY B., Wetumka, Okla.
 LOFLIN, OSCAR M., Tulsa, Okla.
 LOOSIER, IRENE J., Kaufman, Tex.
 LOVE, CLARENCE R., Lubbock, Tex.
 LUBANSKI, NICK, Woodinville, Wash.
 LUTEY, LLOYD G. SR., San Jose, Calif.
 MAC PHERSON, ETHEL, Springfield, Mo.
 MADDICKS, JERRY E., Toppenish, Wash.
 MADSEN, MINNIE, Springfield, Mo.
 MAESTAZ, ALVARO G., Cuba, N. Mex.
 MAHURIN, DELMAR I., Kansas City, Mo.
 MALONEY, HERMAN J., Wilmington, N.C.
 MAMALIS, HARRY D., Oakland, Calif.
 MARANVILLE, KENNETH C., Warrensburg, N.Y.
 MARIN, HENRY J., Costa Mesa, Calif.
 MARLOW, LLOYD J., National City, Calif.
 MARTIN, D. K. JR., Warren, Tex.
 MASON, EBON L., Kountze, Tex.
 MAULDIN, WOODROW W., Puryear, Tenn.
 MC AFEE, F. G., Orlando, Fla.
 MC CLEERY, C. GRANDIN, Kansas City, Mo.
 MC ELYEA, CLARA E., Floydada, Tex.
 MC PHERSON, ESMOND L., Douglasville, Ga.
 MC QUEEN, JAMES L., Tulsa, Okla.
 MC VICKER, JOHN D., Milton, Fla.
 MENCHACA, FELICIANO, Los Banos, Calif.
 MENCHACA, NICANOR SR., Fort Worth, Tex.
 MERWIN, JAMES C., San Jose, Calif.
 MILLER, JONAS E., Sarasota, Fla.
 MILLS, ORVILLE W., Oklahoma City, Okla.
 MING, MABLE A., Woodinville, Wash.
 MITCHELL, RALPH C., Dothan, Ala.
 MOEHR, RICHARD J., Sun City, Ariz.
 MOON, JAMES M., San Antonio, Tex.
 MOORE, PERRY L., Leander, Tex.
 MOORE, W. B., Mabelvale, Ark.
 MORGAN, B. W., Wilburton, Okla.
 MORGAN, SUSAN F., Delaware, Ohio
 MORRISON, HURSHIEL L., Antlers, Okla.
 MORRISON, ROBERT R., Augusta, Kans.
 MULLEN, DOUGLAS M., Warrenton, Va.
 MURRAY, RAYMOND P., Castro Valley, Calif.
 MUSICK, ETHEL W., Tulare, Calif.
 MUSSELL, J. L., Caldwell, Idaho

MYERS, LUCILE, Wichita, Kans.
 NANCE, ROY D., Wylie, Tex.
 NELSON, CLAYTON M., Rancho Cordova, Calif.
 NELSON, DANIEL J., Santa Maria, Calif.
 NELSON, FLOYD A., Springfield, Colo.
 NELSON, LULU E., Spokane, Wash.
 NICHOLS, MARVIN V., Cuba, Mo.
 NICHOLSON, RETHA A., Modesto, Calif.
 NIEVES, GREGORIO, Fajardo, P.R.
 OGREN, E. HAROLD, Olympia, Wash.
 ORCHARD, LAURA A., Rapid City, S. Dak.
 OSBORNE, LUTHER D., Baldwin, Fla.
 OSS, MAYNARD S., Ferndale, Wash.
 OWEN, CHARLEY T., Nacogdoches, Tex.
 PADILLA, HIPOLITO, Saint Just, P.R.
 PATTERSON, DELLA, Locust Grove, Okla.
 PEARMAN, JOHN R., Radcliff, Ky.
 PEIFFER, ELIZABETH M., Petersburg, Va.
 PEREZ, DOMINGO, Broomfield, Colo.
 PERSINC, A. HAROLD, San Jose, Calif.
 PETERSON, BARTLETT, Rogersville, Mo.
 PETERSON, CARROLL V., Laurel, Mont.
 PETERSON, VERA L., Shorewood, Minn.
 PHILLIPS, EVERETT L., Springfield, Mo.
 PINKSTON, JAMES W., Universal City, Tex.
 POLIZZI, JOHN, Troy, Ill.
 POSTELLE, FRANK T., San Antonio, Tex.
 POTTER, FRANKLYN D., Lisbon, Maine
 PRICE, GEORGE, Rock Springs, Wis.
 RAHNEFF, PAUL S., Sun City, Ariz.
 RAINWATER, ARTUS E., Payette, Idaho
 RATZLAFF, PETE W., Tuscon, Ariz.
 RAY, CLARENCE E., Sayre, Okla.
 RAY, ROBERT F., Peoria, Ill.
 REDMOND, W. ALFRED, Missoula, Mont.
 REED, DAVID A., Russellville, Ark.
 REED, W. KEITH, Desert Hot Springs, Calif.
 REEVE, WILLIAM H., Spokane, Wash.
 RENESLACIS, JURIS V., Kitzmiller, Md.
 RHOADES, WILLIAM H. JR., Newark, Del.
 RICE, SAMUEL A., Livingston, Tex.
 RICH, N. GLEN, Englewood, Colo.
 RICHARDS, EVAN P., Youngstown, Ohio
 RICHARDSON, W. H., Harrison, Ark.
 RIDOUT, F. WAYNE, Yakima, Wash.

RIEBEN, ROBERT A., Holiday, Fla.
 ROBERTSON, HENRY J., Bethany, Mo.
 ROBERTSON, ROY H. SR., Seminole, Okla.
 ROBINS, LETHA I. L., Durango, Colo.
 RODGERS, WAYMON L., Louisville, Ky.
 RODRIGUEZ, LUIS Q., Ponce, P.R.
 ROEHL, DANIEL D., Lansing, Mich.
 ROJAS, LUCIO A., San Jose, Calif.
 RUUD, NORMA U., Dawson, Minn.
 SAMUELSON, PAUL C., Wichita, Kans.
 SARBO, FRANK E., Grand Ledge, Mich.
 SARTOR, JAMES H., Tyler, Tex.
 SAXELID, HELEN P., Hayward, Calif.
 SCANTLIN, ORVILLE J., Kimberly, Idaho
 SCHULER, ERNEST F., Kansas City, Kans.
 SCOTT, DOUGLAS G., Three Rivers, Calif.
 SELVEY, LAWRENCE, Oklahoma City, Okla.
 SHABAZ, PHILIP J., Flushing, Mich.
 SHAFFER, CHARLES M., Huntington Station, N.Y.
 SHELTON, HOWARD, Garden City, Kans.
 SHEPELUK, WASILY J., Worcester, Mass.
 SISCO, EVA T., North Bergen, N.J.
 SISCO, MARION A., Norman, Okla.
 SMITH, BERTIE D., Auburn, Ala.
 SMITH, MRS. MARVIN L., Mobile, Ala.
 SMITH, ROBERT C., Lakeland, Fla.
 SMITH, TERRY L., Valley Farms, Ariz.
 SOCHOR, GARY J., Harlowton, Mont.
 SOLIS, NEFTALI M., Upland, Calif.
 SPANN, NEVA D., Apopka, Fla.
 SPENCER, MAURICE Q., Knoxville, Md.
 STAUFFER, URI H., Hollidaysburg, Pa.
 STILES, HENRY F., Englewood, Colo.
 STOKES, LOUIE W., Stockbridge, Ga.
 SUAREZ, JUAN S., Bayamon, P.R.
 TANGEN, MILDRED E., Federal Way, Wash.
 TAPP, N. CLEO, Springfield, Mo.
 TAYLOR, FLOYD N., Brooksville, Ky.
 THOMAS, CHARLES A., South Wales, N.Y.
 THOMASTON, JAMES W., Cairo, Ga.
 THOMPSON, HOLLIE P., Hurst, Tex.
 TRUITT, CLIFFORD C., Ozark, Mo.
 TUCKER, GRACE C., McAllen, Tex.
 TUCKER, JOHN W., Lancaster, Pa.
 TUCKER, O. L., Bedford, Ind.

TURNER, MARSHALL O., Greenville, S.C.
 TURNER, SYLVAN R., Springfield, Mo.
 USHER, CARL F., Mantua, Ohio
 VALENTINI, NICOLA, Clayton, N.J.
 VAN HORN, ELMER L., Roanoke, Tex.
 VAN METER, EDITH S., Gary, Ind.
 VASS, WILLIAM D., Burleson, Tex.
 VAUGHN, VERBIE L., Live Oak, Calif.
 VESPA, ARTHUR, Cumberland, Md.
 VIGNA, JAMES, San Francisco, Calif.
 WALKER, CARL D. JR., Frontenac, Kans.
 WALKER, DONALD L., West Fork, Ark.
 WALKER, JEWEL, Frontenac, Kans.
 WALSH, GUY W., Edwardsburg, Mich.
 WALTON, FREDERICK J., Portland, Oreg.
 WARREN, EDWIN J., Godley, Tex.
 WATKINS, WILLIAM F., Albuquerque, N. Mex.
 WEST, W. GLENN, Springfield, Mo.
 WETZEL, RAYMOND C. SR., Columbus, Ga.
 WHITE, BURRELL R., Conway, Mo.
 WHITE, SHIRLEY A., Riverdale, Ga.
 WILCOX, ELZO L., Black River Falls, Wis.
 WILKES, MELVIN K., Columbus, Ohio
 WILLIAMS, ERNEST W., North Fort Myers, Fla.
 WILLIAMS, JOHN J., Silverton, Idaho
 WILLIAMS, JOSEPHINE K., Springfield, Mo.
 WILLIAMSON, GARY W., Richmond, Va.
 WILLIS, VAN M., Charlotte, N.C.
 WILSON, ANNA M., Cumberland, Md.
 WILSON, GERALD E., Southbridge, Mass.
 WILSON, HERLEY A., Covington, Okla.
 WILSON, RONALD L., San Francisco, Calif.
 WILSON, ROY K., Richlands, Va.
 WIRKALA, EDWIN A., Naselle, Wash.
 WOODWORTH, OLGA M., Los Angeles, Calif.
 WUNDER, ALVA E., Lebanon, Oreg.
 YAKE, REGINALD A., Auburn, Pa.
 YAMADA, JOSEPH T., Hines, Ill.
 YATES, HUBERT, North Port, Ala.
 YEATS, EDDIE M., Porter, Tex.
 YOUNG, JAMES H., Grand Prairie, Tex.
 YOUNG, W. GENE, Leonard, Tex.
 ZIEGLER, CLARA G., Redondo Beach, Calif.

The following names of deceased ordained ministers which had been

reported to the general secretary's office after June 15, 1989, were also included in the presentation.

AKERS, GLENN D., Ukiah, Calif.
 ALLEN, GARNET, Denton, Tex.
 ANSPAUGH, ESTHER L., Wichita Falls, Tex.
 BEARD, E. DWIGHT, Casper, Wyo.
 BRADLEY, PATRICIA M., Minneapolis, Minn.
 BRIDGES, JAMES E., Quitman, La.
 BROWN, JAMES W., Silvis, Ill.
 BYERS, FLORENCE M., Johnstown, Penn.
 FRANK, HUMBERT E., Newark, Calif.
 LINCOLN, RUTH I., Chewelah, Wash.
 MILLER, L. C., Morrilton, Ark.
 PEARCE, DAVID D., Cerritos, Calif.
 PHILLIPS, CLIFFORD W., Tacoma, Wash.
 PYLE, ALBERT D., Anniston, Ala.
 REED, LUTHER, Pampa, Tex.
 ROWLETT, ANDY, Fresno, Calif.
 SHUSS, CHARLES R., Santa Clara, Calif.
 SMITH, EMMA, Visalia, Calif.
 THORNHILL, JAMES H., Thorndike, Maine

General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson presided during the Communion Service. He was assisted by members of the Executive Presbytery and General Presbytery.

SUNDAY EVENING—AUGUST 13

The 75th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday evening began at 5 p.m. Everett Stenhouse was in charge of the service, which started with an international parade featuring guests and church leaders from around the world, as well as home and foreign missionaries. During the parade music was provided by an orchestra, after which the Fijian Choir sang two songs. The theme for the service was "Renew." General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson was the speaker for the evening service. His message was titled "The Harvest Will Not Wait." The Scripture from Isaiah 40:28-31 and Romans 12:1-8 was read by James MacKnight, general superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. Paul Ferrin led the congregational singing. Paul Cope, Winnie Swaim, and Randy Wright, all from Springfield, Missouri, served at the organ, piano, and electric piano respectively. A 2,500-voice choir provided special music for the service. Fifteen vocalists and musicians presented a medley of sacred song as a special "Musical Tribute to the Assemblies of God."

The anniversary rally concluded with the completion of the torch run and official launching of the Decade of Harvest. With a trumpet fanfare, runners who took part in the torch run which began in Hot Springs,

Arkansas, on July 31, came onto the arena floor and lined the aisle for the entry of the torch. Terry Raburn, secretary of the national Youth Department, ran the torch into the arena and passed it to Brother Carlson. Brother Carlson officially declared the launching of the Decade of Harvest.

Final Roster Committee Report

The final roster report for the 1989 General Council was as follows:

Ordained	4,782	
Delegates	<u>1,336</u>	
Voting constituency		6,118
Licensed	730	
Visitors	<u>16,461</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>17,191</u>
Total registration		23,309

JOSEPH R. FLOWER
GENERAL SECRETARY

Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God in the United States of America and Foreign Lands Revised to August 13, 1989

CONSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION

WE BELIEVE:

That God's purpose concerning man is (1) to seek and to save that which is lost, (2) to be worshiped by man, and (3) to build a body of believers in the image of His Son.

That these believers, saved and called out of the world, constitute the body or church of Jesus Christ built and established upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone.

That the members of the body, the church (ecclesia) of Jesus Christ, are enjoined to assemble themselves for worship, fellowship, counsel, and instruction in the Word of God, the work of the ministry and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for New Testament church order.

That it is evident the early apostolic churches came together in fellowship as a representative body of saved, Spirit-filled believers who ordained and sent out evangelists and missionaries, and under the supervision of the Holy Spirit set over the church pastors and teachers.

That the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God is to be an agency of God for evangelizing the world, to be a corporate body in which man may worship God, and to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.

That the Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit, which enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs, adding a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God, and enabling them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ.

That we are a cooperative fellowship of Pentecostal, Spirit-baptized saints from local Pentecostal assemblies of like precious faith throughout the United States and foreign lands to be known as the General Council of the Assemblies of God whose purpose is neither to usurp authority over the various local assemblies, nor to deprive them of their scriptural

and local rights and privileges; but to recognize and promote scriptural methods and order for worship, unity, fellowship, work, and business for God; and to disapprove unscriptural methods, doctrines and conduct, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, "till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13).

ARTICLE I. NAME

The corporate name shall be *The General Council of the Assemblies of God*, which term is reserved for legal use when referring to the legal entity.

The term *General Council* shall be used to refer to sessions of the corporation.

The term *Assemblies of God* shall be used to refer to the entire constituency.

ARTICLE II. NATURE

The General Council of the Assemblies of God is a cooperative fellowship based upon mutual agreements voluntarily entered into by its membership.

ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES

The prerogatives of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be:

- a. To encourage and promote the evangelization of the world.
- b. To encourage and promote the worship of God.
- c. To encourage and promote the edification of believers.
- d. To provide a basis of fellowship among Christians of like precious faith.
- e. To establish and maintain such departments and institutions as may be necessary for the propagation of the gospel and the work of this Pentecostal fellowship.
- f. To approve all scriptural teachings, methods, and conduct; and to disapprove unscriptural teachings, methods, and conduct.
- g. To have the right to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of such property, real or chattel, as may be needed for the prosecution of its work.

ARTICLE IV. PRINCIPLES FOR FELLOWSHIP

The Assemblies of God shall represent, as nearly as possible in detail, the body of Christ as described in the New Testament Scriptures. It shall recognize the principles inherent in the body as also inherent in this Fellowship, particularly the principles of unity, cooperation, and equality. It recognizes that these principles will enable it to achieve its priority reason-for-being as an agency of God for evangelizing the world, as a

corporate body in which man may worship God, and as a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.

ARTICLE V.

STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. This Statement of Fundamental Truths is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us (i.e., that we all speak the same thing, 1 Corinthians 1:10; Acts 2:42). The phraseology employed in this statement is not inspired or contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essential to a full-gospel ministry. No claim is made that it contains all Biblical truth, only that it covers our need as to these fundamental doctrines.

1. The Scriptures Inspired

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct (2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

2. The One True God

The one true God has revealed himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10,11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22).

THE ADORABLE GODHEAD

(a) Terms Defined

The terms *trinity* and *persons*, as related to the Godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with Scripture, whereby we may convey to others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God, as distinguished from "gods many and lords many." We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is One Lord, as a Trinity or as one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely scriptural (examples, Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; John 14:16,17).

(b) Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead

Christ taught a distinction of persons in the Godhead which He expressed in specific terms of relationship, as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, but that this distinction and relationship, as to its mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible, because unexplained (Luke 1:35; 1 Corinthians 1:24; Matthew 11:25-27; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 1:3,4).

(c) Unity of the One Being of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Son which constitutes Him the Son and not the Father; and there is that in the Holy Ghost which constitutes Him the Holy Ghost and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore the Father is the Begetter; the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Ghost is the One proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the Godhead are in a state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one (John 1:18; 15:26; 17:11,21; Zechariah 14:9).

(d) Identity and Cooperation in the Godhead

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are never identical as to person; nor confused as to relation; nor divided in respect to the Godhead; nor opposed as to cooperation. The Son is in the Father and the Father is in the Son as to relationship. The Son is with the Father and the Father is with the Son, as to fellowship. The Father is not from the Son, but the Son is from the Father, as to authority. The Holy Ghost is from the Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, rela-

tionship, cooperation and authority. Hence no person in the Godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others (John 5:17-30,32,37; 8:17,18).

(e) **The Title, Lord Jesus Christ**

The appellation *Lord Jesus Christ*, is a proper name. It is never applied in the New Testament either to the Father or to the Holy Ghost. It therefore belongs exclusively to the Son of God. (Romans 1:1-3,7; 2 John 3).

(f) **The Lord Jesus Christ, God with us**

The Lord Jesus Christ, as to His divine and eternal nature, is the proper and only Begotten of the Father, but as to His human nature, He is the proper Son of Man. He is, therefore, acknowledged to be both God and man; who because He is God and man, is "Immanuel," God with us. (Matthew 1:23; 1 John 4:2,10,14; Revelation 1:13,17).

(g) **The Title, Son of God**

Since the name *Immanuel* embraces both God and man, in the one person, our Lord Jesus Christ, it follows that the title *Son of God* describes His proper deity, and the title *Son of Man*, His proper humanity. Therefore, the title *Son of God* belongs to the order of eternity, and the title *Son of Man* to the order of time (Matthew 1:21-23; 2 John 3; 1 John 3:8; Hebrews 7:3; 1:1-13).

(h) **Transgression of the Doctrine of Christ**

Wherefore, it is a transgression of the doctrine of Christ to say that Jesus Christ derived the title *Son of God* solely from the fact of the Incarnation, or because of His relation to the economy of redemption. Therefore, to deny that the Father is a real and eternal Father, and that the Son is a real and eternal Son, is a denial of the distinction and relationship in the Being of God; a denial of the Father and the Son; and a displacement of the truth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh (2 John 9; John 1:1,2,14,18,29,49; 1 John 2:22,23; 4:1-5; Hebrews 12:2).

(i) **Exaltation of Jesus Christ as Lord**

The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, having by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, angels and principalities and powers having been made subject unto Him. And having been made both Lord and Christ, He sent the Holy Ghost that we, in the name of Jesus, might bow our knees and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father until the end, when the Son shall become subject to the Father that God may be all in all (Hebrews 1:3; 1 Peter 3:22; Acts 2:32-36; Romans 14:11; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

(j) **Equal Honor to the Father and to the Son**

Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is not only the express duty of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee, but it is an unspeakable joy in the Holy Ghost to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of deity, and to give Him all the honor and the glory contained in all the names and titles of the Godhead except those which express relationship (see paragraphs b, c, and d), and thus honor the Son even as we honor the Father (John 5:22,23; 1 Peter 1:8; Revelation 5:6-14; Philippians 2:8,9; Revelation 7:9,10; 4:8-11).

3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

- (a) His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31,35).
- (b) His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22).
- (c) His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
- (d) His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21).
- (e) His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4).
- (f) His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9,11; 2:33; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 1:3).

4. The Fall of Man

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression

fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26,27; 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).

5. The Salvation of Man

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

(a) **Conditions to Salvation**

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).

(b) **The Evidences of Salvation**

The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16). The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24; Titus 2:12).

6. The Ordinances of the Church

(a) **Baptism in Water**

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Saviour and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47,48; Romans 6:4).

(b) **Holy Communion**

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements—bread and the fruit of the vine—is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4); a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Corinthians 11:26); and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 11:26); and is enjoined on all believers "till He come!"

7. The Baptism in the Holy Ghost

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4,8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31). This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the baptism in the Holy Ghost come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28), an intensified consecration to God and dedication

to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

8. The Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Ghost

The baptism of believers in the Holy Ghost is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance (Acts 2:4). The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:4-10,28), but different in purpose and use.

9. Sanctification

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Romans 12:1,2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command: "Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:15,16).

Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit (Romans 6:1-11,13; 8:1,2,13; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:12,13; 1 Peter 1:5).

10. The Church and Its Mission

The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22,23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23).

Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshiped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- a. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16).
- b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians 12:13).
- c. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 14:12).

The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience:

- a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Hebrews 2:3,4).

- b. Adds a necessary dimension to a worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12-14).
- c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ (Galatians 5:22-26; 1 Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11,12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).

11. The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) worship of God (John 4:23,24), and (3) building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11,16).

12. Divine Healing

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the Atonement, and is the privilege of all believers (Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:16,17; James 5:14-16).

13. The Blessed Hope

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the Church (1 Thessalonians 4:16,17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51,52).

14. The Millennial Reign of Christ

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27,30; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezekiel 37:21,22; Zephaniah 3:19,20; Romans 11:26,27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3,4).

15. The Final Judgment

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

16. The New Heavens and the New Earth

"We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21,22).

ARTICLE VI. RELATIONSHIPS

The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall prosecute its activities through its general offices and district councils.

ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP**Section 1. The General Council of the Assemblies of God**

The membership of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall consist of all ordained ministers holding a current fellowship certificate and churches holding a Certificate of Affiliation issued by The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Section 2. Assemblies of God

The membership of the Assemblies of God shall consist of all ministers of the Assemblies of God and all other persons who are members of churches affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God and its district councils.

Section 3. Voting Constituency

The voting constituency at a General Council shall be composed of all members of The General Council of the Assemblies of God holding a current fellowship certificate who are present and registered; and of such delegates present and registered, as may be chosen by the churches affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God, each church being entitled to one delegate.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

a. Regular sessions. Regular sessions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be held biennially, pursuant to a call by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Special sessions. Special sessions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God may be arranged by the Executive Presbytery if agreed to by a majority of the general presbyters.

c. Right of initiative. The right of initiative in the matter of calling special sessions shall be granted to any ordained minister of The General Council of the Assemblies of God when occasion demands. A statement setting forth the reasons for a special session of the Council, signed by not less than 15 ordained ministers, may be considered sufficient reason for the call of a special session, such statement to be filed with the Executive Presbytery, which may, if it shall be deemed advisable, respond to the summons and issue the call for a special session.

ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS**Section 1. Executive Officers**

a. Officers and terms of office. The officers shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, and the general treasurer, together with such other officers as may be authorized in the future. Their terms of office shall begin 3 months after the date of election. The term of office for the general superintendent shall continue for 4 years or until his successor qualifies. The terms of office for all other officers shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

b. Board of Administration. The executive officers shall constitute a Board of Administration.

Section 2. Executive Presbytery

a. Composition and terms of office. The Executive Presbytery shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, the general treasurer, the executive director of Foreign Missions, together with 8 other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to 13. The terms of office for all members of the Executive Presbytery, except as stated in Section 1, shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

b. A Board of Directors. The Executive Presbytery shall constitute a Board of Directors, performing such functions as usual and customary in the use of the term. Executive Presbytery and Board of Directors shall be interchangeable terms and wherever used shall be inclusive one of the other.

Section 3. General Presbytery

a. Representation, qualifications, and responsibilities. The General Presbytery shall be composed of representative men of mature experience and ability whose lives and ministry are above reproach, who shall represent the Fellowship in all phases of its work and interest in their respective fields. The General Presbytery shall be the official policy-making body of the General Council when the General Council is not in session. Each district shall have the privilege of representation on the General Presbytery by three members, the district superintendent together with two others who shall be elected by the district council, one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church located in the district. They shall take office immediately.

b. Executive presbyters ex officio members. All members of the Executive Presbytery shall be ex officio members of the General Presbytery.

c. Foreign missions representation. The foreign fields shall be represented on the General Presbytery by the field directors of the Division of Foreign Missions and by two others from each of the overall areas which the field directors represent.

d. College representation. The duly endorsed colleges of the Assemblies of God shall be represented on the General Presbytery by three college presidents.

e. Honorary general presbyters. Upon the approval of the General Presbytery, honorary members may be chosen by the General Council from among those ministers who have served on the General Presbytery for 20 years, or more, and have reached the age of 60. The addition of such honorary members shall not disturb the regular number of presbyters granted each district.

ARTICLE X. DISTRICT COUNCILS

a. Membership. Membership of the district councils shall consist of all ordained and licensed ministers of the district, and such delegates as may be elected by assemblies to represent them in the meetings of the district council. Delegates shall be elected upon a basis of representation as may be agreed upon by the council.

b. Area of supervision. The district council shall have supervision over all the activities of the Assemblies of God in its prescribed field, except such as are agreed upon by a district council and the officials of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

c. Foreign language districts. A foreign language group may be recognized as a district of the Assemblies of God in accordance with the provision for district councils in the bylaws. The territory of such a district is confined to ministry among certain language groups, and its geographical areas of operation may therefore overlap or coincide with that of one or more district councils. (See Article V of the bylaws.)

d. Credentialing authority. The district council shall have the authority to examine and approve candidates who qualify as Christian workers and licensed ministers. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed by the districts and forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God for the issuance of the appropriate credential. The district council shall also have the authority to examine and ordain ministers after having received approval from the General Council Credentials Committee. Any certain extent of academic education shall never be a requirement for credentials, but it shall be required of applicants that they take such reading courses and pass examinations as may be prescribed by respective district councils in agreement with the General Council Credentials Committee.

e. Areas of authority. The district council shall elect its own officers and arrange for its own meetings.

f. Amenability to General Council. The district council, being the creature of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and subordinate thereto, cannot be authorized, in any way, to violate the principles of The General Council of the Assemblies of God constitutional agreements or bylaws. In the prosecution of the work in its prescribed field the district council shall be expected to keep vigilant watch against any violation of the principles of spiritual unity and cooperative fellowship to which the Assemblies of God fellowship is especially and unalterably dedicated. It shall be amenable to The General Council of the Assemblies of God in matters of doctrine and the personal conduct of all ministers who are permitted to have district endorsement.

ARTICLE XI. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES**Section 1. General Council Affiliated Assemblies**

A General Council affiliated assembly is one which has applied for and has received a Certificate of Affiliation from The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

a. Requirements for affiliation. Churches desiring to be affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall meet the following requirements. They shall:

(1) Accept the tenets of faith of the Assemblies of God.

(2) Adopt a standard of membership which may be determined either by the local assembly or by agreement with the district council.

(3) Have a minimum active voting membership of 20 persons who shall accept their full share of responsibility for the maintenance of scriptural order in the local body.

(4) Adopt a constitution and bylaws compatible with those recommended by the district council.

(5) Have an adequate number of spiritually qualified members to fill the offices of the church called for in its constitution and bylaws.

(6) Make provision for a pastor who is a credentialed minister in good standing with the General Council and/or a district council.

b. Relationship to and support of the General Council and district councils. A General Council affiliated assembly should cooperate in the work and support the programs of the General Council and district councils and may send delegates to the General Council and district councils.

c. Right of self-government (sovereign rights). Each General Council affiliated assembly has the right of self-government under Jesus Christ, its living Head, and shall have the power to choose or call its pastor, elect its official board, and transact all other business pertaining to its life as a local unit. It shall have the right to administer discipline to its members according to the Scriptures and its bylaws. It shall have the right to acquire and hold title to property, either through trustees or in its corporate name as a self-governing unit. The fact that it is affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall in no wise destroy its rights as above stated or interfere with its sovereignty.

d. Subordinate in matters of doctrine and conduct. A General Council affiliated assembly shall recognize that a district council or The General Council of the Assemblies of God has the right to approve scriptural doctrine and conduct and to disapprove unscriptural doctrine and conduct and the authority to withdraw its Certificate of Affiliation if deemed necessary.

e. Right of appeal. When in need of counsel or advice, the General Council affiliated assembly may appeal to the district officer for help. It may appeal from a decision by the district officer to the Executive Pres-

bytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God when there is a question whether or not the assembly has received proper help from the district. When exceptions are taken to the decisions of the Executive Presbytery, either by the General Council affiliated assembly or by the district presbytery, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery.

Section 2. District Council Affiliated Assemblies

Provision shall be made by the district councils for district council affiliated assemblies which shall be under the supervision of the district council, in accordance with the provisions of the district council constitution and bylaws. These assemblies shall be encouraged to proceed to the status of sovereign General Council affiliated assemblies.

Section 3. World Ministries Participation

All assemblies are expected to have an interest in the world ministries of the Assemblies of God and to plan for regular contributions for its support.

ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION

The assets of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, a Missouri corporation, are irrevocably dedicated to religious and/or charitable purposes, the same being stated fully in its Articles of Agreement and heretofore in the articles of this constitution. In the event of liquidation, dissolution, or the revocation of its charter or abandonment of its stated purposes, after providing for the payment of debts and obligations of the corporation, the remaining assets will not inure to the benefit of any private person or persons but all such remaining assets will be distributed to a nonprofit organization, or to nonprofit organizations, which are organized and operated exclusively for religious and/or charitable purposes which are exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, under which section the organization or organizations shall have established tax exempt status.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the constitution may be made at any regularly called session of the General Council provided that the proposed amendments shall have been submitted at least 6 months prior thereto in writing to the Executive Presbytery. Before the Executive Presbytery may submit such proposed amendments for consideration by a session of the General Council, it shall cause notice thereof to be provided by mail to the office of each district superintendent and each district secretary, and by insertion in the Assemblies of God Minister, sent periodically to ministers of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, not later than 60 days prior to said session. Amendments to the constitution shall require a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. PARLIAMENTARY ORDER

The work of the General Council shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as set forth in the current edition of *Roberts' Rules of Order Newly Revised*, in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers

The officers of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be elected at one of its regular meetings, according to the manner of election as provided. They shall be chosen from the membership of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and shall be men of mature experience and ability, whose life and ministry are above question, and such qualities alone shall determine their eligibility.

Section 2. Nominations and Elections

a. General superintendent, assistant general superintendent, and general secretary. All candidates for the offices of general superintendent, assistant general superintendent, and general secretary shall be nominated by secret ballot. A two-thirds vote of all votes cast shall be necessary to constitute an election. In the event two-thirds of the votes cast are received by a qualified candidate on the nominating ballot, an election shall be declared. If no election has been declared after the second elective ballot has been cast, the 15 candidates having the highest number of votes in the last ballot cast shall be nominees to be further voted upon, and all other names shall be eliminated. If no election has been declared after the third elective ballot has been cast, the three candidates having the highest number of votes in the last ballot cast shall be nominees to be further voted upon, and all other names shall be eliminated.

b. General treasurer. The general treasurer shall be elected in the following manner: The General Presbytery, serving as a nominating committee, shall be entrusted with the responsibility of making careful investigation concerning the qualifications and general fitness of available candidates for this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot one or more names to be presented to the General Council in session for election. The General Presbytery shall submit as nominees to the General Council all qualified candidates who have received at least 15 votes in the General Presbytery. A two-thirds vote of the General Council shall be required for election.

c. Executive director of foreign missions. The executive director of foreign missions shall be elected in the following manner: The General Presbytery, serving as a nominating committee, shall be entrusted with the responsibility of making careful investigation concerning the qualifications and general fitness of available candidates for this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot one or more names to be presented to

the General Council in session for election. The General Presbytery shall submit as nominees to the General Council all qualified candidates who have received at least 15 votes in the General Presbytery. A two-thirds vote of the General Council shall be required for election.

d. General presbyters.

(1) *District representatives.* In addition to the district superintendent of each district, who shall serve on the General Presbytery by virtue of his office, two others shall be elected by the district council in session, one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church located in the district. They shall take office immediately upon election.

(2) *Foreign Missions representatives.* Field directors of the Division of Foreign Missions, representing the missionaries from their respective areas, are members of the General Presbytery by virtue of office. Two additional representatives on the General Presbytery from each field fellowship shall be chosen in the following manner: The Foreign Missions Board shall nominate four missionaries from each general area represented by the field directors, including international ministries. Nominees will be selected from missionaries who will be in the United States at the time of the General Presbytery Meeting and who preferably have had administrative experience in the field fellowship. Ballots shall be sent to all missionaries in each area who shall by vote select two to represent them on the General Presbytery. These shall be mailed to the general secretary who shall prepare a report to the Executive Presbytery. A simple majority vote shall be required to elect.

(3) *College representatives.* College representatives, as provided for in Constitution Article IX, Section 3, paragraph d, shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery for a 2-year term on a rotating basis. A two-thirds vote shall be required. Two years shall elapse after a term is completed before a president shall be eligible for reelection to the General Presbytery.

e. Nonresident executive presbyters

(1) *Nominations and elections.* The General Council shall have the right to elect additional officers to serve on the Executive Presbytery as provided in Article IX, Section 2, of the constitution. The nominations for eight nonresident executive presbyters shall be made as follows: Each district council at its annual meeting prior to the General Council session shall nominate two ministers from its district, one of whom is not an elected full-time district official, to be presented to the General Council as nominees from its area. These nominees shall be presented to and be balloted upon by the General Council in session. A two-thirds vote shall be required to nominate and to elect.

(2) *Area divisions for electing nonresident executive presbyters.* For the purpose of electing nonresident executive presbyters, The General

Council of the Assemblies of God shall be divided into eight areas, according to district boundary lines in the following manner:

Northwest Area: Alaska, Montana, Northwest, Oregon, Southern Idaho, Wyoming

Southwest Area: Arizona, Hawaii, Korean, Northern California-Nevada, Pacific Latin American, Rocky Mountain, Southern California

North Central Area: Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Northern Missouri, South Dakota, Wisconsin-Northern Michigan

South Central Area: Central Latin American, Gulf Latin American, Kansas, New Mexico, North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas, West Texas

Great Lakes Area: Appalachian, German, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Midwest Latin American, Ohio

Gulf Area: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Southern Missouri, Tennessee

Northeast Area: Italian, New Jersey, New York, Northern New England, Pennsylvania-Delaware, Potomac, Southern New England, Spanish Eastern

Southeast Area: Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Peninsular Florida, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Southeastern Spanish, West Florida

f. Boards of education and foreign missions members. For the purpose of selection by the General Presbytery of the members of the Board of Education in compliance with Bylaw Article XII, Section 2, paragraph b, (2)(a), and of the Laymen's Advisory Committee of the Division of Foreign Missions as provided for in Article XV, Section 2, paragraph e, members of foreign language districts shall vote with the area in which the district office is located. Foreign missionaries on furlough shall vote with their home districts.

Section 3. Vacancies

a. Executive officers. In the event any of the executive offices of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall become vacant through death or other cause, the Executive Presbytery shall fill the office by appointment until the next meeting of the General Council, with the exception that in the event of death or incapacity of the general superintendent the assistant general superintendent shall succeed to the office of general superintendent until the next General Council.

b. Nonresident executive presbyters

(1) In the event a vacancy shall occur, for any reason, in the office of a nonresident executive presbyter, the general secretary shall request each district council within that area (See Bylaws Article II, Section 2.e.) to submit two nominees for the office. The General Presbytery shall, at its next meeting, elect one minister from among the nominees submitted, to fill the vacancy until the next meeting of the General Council. (See Bylaws Article II, Section 1, for qualifications.)

(2) Should a vacancy occur so close to the time of the meeting of the General Presbytery that insufficient time remains for district councils to select and submit nominees in the above manner, then nominees shall be obtained by a caucus of the general presbyters of the area involved. Such caucus to be held during the meeting of the General Presbytery.

(3) Nominees shall be voted upon by the entire General Presbytery until one receives two-thirds of the votes cast.

(4) In the event a nonresident executive presbyter moves to a location outside of the boundaries of the area, it shall be incumbent upon the Executive Presbytery to declare a vacancy in that office.

c. **General presbyters.** In the event a general presbyter shall move to another district or shall vacate his office for any other reason, the presbytery of the district council shall appoint one to serve as general presbyter until that office is regularly filled at the next meeting of the district council.

ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Duties of the General Superintendent

a. The general superintendent shall emphasize and implement the threefold mission of the church: the evangelization of the world, the worship of God, and the building of a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son; and promote and coordinate efforts directed toward the fulfilling of that mission.

b. He shall be general superintendent of all work on the field conducted in behalf of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

c. He shall supervise all the work of the general office, act as president of the corporation in all legal matters, and be an ex officio member of all committees and boards.

d. He shall preside at the sessions of the General Presbytery and the General Council.

e. He shall preside at all meetings of the General Council Credentials Committee and sign all credentials.

f. He shall preside at all sessions of the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Administration and receive all communications directed to these bodies.

g. He shall administer discipline in all cases when requested to do so by the General Council Credentials Committee.

h. He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents.

i. He shall be authorized to perform any other functions usual and customary as presiding officer or such as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, or by the Executive Presbytery.

Section 2. Duties of the Assistant General Superintendent

a. The assistant general superintendent shall assist the general superintendent.

b. He shall serve as vice-president of the corporation and preside at meetings of the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Administration in the absence of the general superintendent.

c. He shall perform any other functions under the supervision of the general superintendent, or such as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, or the Executive Presbytery.

Section 3. Duties of the General Secretary

a. The general secretary shall make and keep true records of the proceedings of the General Council and shall publish the same as approved and directed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. He shall be the custodian of the official seal and shall issue credentials under the direction of the General Council Credentials Committee and shall keep a record of all ordained and licensed ministers and assemblies in the Fellowship.

c. He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents.

d. He shall serve as secretary of the General Presbytery, Executive Presbytery, the General Council Credentials Committee, and the Board of Administration and shall keep accurate minutes of the deliberations of these bodies.

e. He shall be authorized to edit and prepare for distribution the minutes of the meeting of the General Presbytery after examination and approval thereof by the Executive Presbytery.

f. He shall perform such other functions as are customary or as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, or the Executive Presbytery.

Section 4. Duties of the General Treasurer

a. The general treasurer shall be the executive director of the Division of the Treasury.

b. He shall be custodian of all funds.

c. He shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements, conducting the work of his office according to accepted business methods.

d. He shall give a report from time to time as may be requested by the General Council or the Executive Presbytery.

e. He shall give bond to the amount of \$50,000. The treasurer's books shall be audited annually by competent auditors.

f. He shall perform such other functions as are customary to his office or as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, or the Executive Presbytery.

Section 5. Duties of the Executive Director of Foreign Missions

He shall be the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions under the supervision of the Executive Presbytery. Under his direction the division shall perform the following duties and render the following services:

- a. Keep a record of all official acts of the Foreign Missions Board and other committees of the division.
- b. Conduct all correspondence with prospective missionaries and with those already on the field.
- c. Prepare the foreign missions material in the Pentecostal Evangel from missionary letters and reports.
- d. Represent The General Council of the Assemblies of God in all relationships with governments or authorities where our foreign missions work is involved.
- e. Direct the foreign missions activities of the Fellowship.
- f. Distribute all foreign missions funds as directed by the donors by agreement with the Foreign Missions Committee.
- g. Keep such records of all funds received and disbursed as will safeguard the funds from loss en route to the field.
- h. Act as a purchasing agent for foreign missions supplies.
- i. Perform such other functions as may be directed by the Executive Presbytery or the General Presbytery.

Section 6. Duties of the Executive Presbytery

- a. The executive presbyters shall serve as trustees of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. They shall be empowered to supervise and have general oversight of all departments. They shall be authorized to act for the corporation in all matters that affect its interests while the General Council is not in session, subject to the provisions of paragraph h and j of Section 6 and paragraph a of Section 8 of this article.
- b. The Executive Presbytery shall have the right and duty of interpreting policy originating in the legislation of the General Council or the General Presbytery. Such interpretations shall stand as final unless reversed at the next meeting of the body in which the legislation originated.
- c. They shall have the right to buy, take, lease or otherwise acquire, own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of real property, personal and mixed, tangible and intangible of whatsoever kind; to borrow monies as deemed necessary and to issue bonds of whatsoever kind, trust deeds, mortgages, debentures, and notes; and to enter into contracts; all as may seem expedient and proper in the furtherance of the work of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.
- d. To hold in trust such funds as may be committed to them as trustees, or to dispose of the same as may be directed.
- e. To issue annuity bonds or contracts, and to protect the same by judicious investments.
- f. They shall be authorized to purchase or dispose of securities as need requires in an effort to strengthen the financial position of the corporation.
- g. All properties of the corporation shall be bought, taken, held, sold, transferred, mortgaged, leased, assigned or conveyed in the corporate name upon authorization by the Executive Presbytery, as trustees thereof, and the president and the general secretary shall be authorized and they

hereby are authorized to execute all documents pertaining to such transactions.

h. In all matters of great importance, the Executive Presbytery shall communicate with the members of the General Presbytery before final action shall be taken. The Executive Presbytery shall be amenable to the General Presbytery.

i. The executive presbyters shall be empowered to arrange for and announce the meetings of the General Council, with consideration for the interests of the Fellowship as a whole. The decision of time and place for such meetings shall rest in their hands.

j. The executive presbyters shall also at their discretion call business meetings of the General Presbytery when deemed advisable.

k. The executive presbyters shall make a report to the General Council of their activities in behalf of the Fellowship as may be directed.

Section 7. Duties of the Board of Administration

- a. The Board of Administration shall be the executive arm of the Executive Presbytery.
- b. The Board of Administration shall not originate or interpret policy but shall be confined to the administration of those matters delegated to it by the Executive Presbytery.
- c. The Board of Administration shall provide for general services as required for the various operations at general headquarters.
- d. It shall be responsible to the Executive Presbytery.

Section 8. Duties of the General Presbytery

- a. The General Presbytery shall be empowered to act in all matters pertaining to foreign missionary and ministerial relationships, and all matters which pertain to the proper functioning of divisions, departments, and institutions in the Fellowship. Should an irreconcilable difference arise between the General Presbytery and the Executive Presbytery, the decision of the General Presbytery shall prevail until such time as the issue may be submitted to the General Council. All decisions pertaining to constitutional order or fundamental doctrines shall be referred to the General Council for ratification in the manner provided in the constitution.
- b. Any 12 members of the General Presbytery shall have the prerogative of calling a special session of the General Presbytery by presenting a signed request to the general superintendent who shall determine the time of such meeting in consultation with the Executive Presbytery.
- c. Any district council by the action of its district presbytery or any three or more general presbyters may have a matter added to the General Presbytery agenda at any time during any duly called General Presbytery meeting.
- d. The General Presbytery shall also act as a Court of Appeal for the reviewing of testimony given in missionary and ministerial trials. Its decisions shall be final.

e. The General Presbytery shall determine the salaries and/or allowances of all elected officers of the General Council. A committee of five general presbyters shall be appointed annually by the Executive Presbytery for the purpose of making a review of such salaries and allowances. It shall report its recommendations to the General Presbytery for final action.

ARTICLE IV. COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees

Standing committees shall be appointed as necessity may require. They shall serve for the designated time or until their purpose is accomplished. In the event a vacancy shall occur in a standing committee, the Executive Presbytery shall be authorized to fill such vacancy.

Section 2. Credentials Committee

The Executive Presbytery shall constitute the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, hereinafter referred to as the General Council Credentials Committee. It shall have the authority to issue certificates of ordination, licenses to preach, specialized ministries licenses and Christian workers certificates, and to issue annual fellowship cards to those persons whose renewal questionnaires have received district endorsement. It may delegate the routine work of the Credentials Committee to the Board of Administration.

Section 3. Roster Committee

A Roster Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery prior to each meeting of the General Council. This committee shall be expected to open the roster on the morning of the day preceding the convening of the General Council. It shall be entrusted with the responsibility of examining credentials of all ministers and delegates. Ordained ministers shall identify themselves by fellowship cards of the current year; delegates from assemblies shall obtain letters from their church secretary or pastor certifying to their appointment by the assembly to represent it in the General Council. Suitable badges shall be issued by the committee to all qualified delegates and ministers, such badges to indicate the classification of ordained ministers, licensed ministers, delegates from assemblies, visitors, etc.

Section 4. Resolutions Committee

a. **Procedure for presentation of resolutions.** A Resolutions Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. All resolutions for presentation to the General Council, except emergency measures, shall be presented to the general secretary's office at least 100 days prior to a General Council session. The Resolutions Committee shall prepare the resolutions in printed form and mail them to the General Council ministers and churches 30 days prior to the General Council, with the understanding that this does not apply to business growing out of Executive Presbytery

and General Presbytery meetings just prior to the General Council; and that resolutions of an emergency nature shall be decided by a two-thirds vote of the council.

b. **Sponsorship policy.** All resolutions presented to the Resolutions Committee shall be signed by the author or sponsor. When a resolution is presented for the consideration of the General Council in session the author, sponsor, or a spokesman therefor shall be expected to be the first speaker on behalf of the resolution.

c. **Appropriateness of resolutions.** The Resolutions Committee shall, by a two-thirds vote, determine the appropriateness of a proposed resolution, including the following criteria in its decision:

- (1) Possible conflict with the corporate charter, constitution, or by-laws.
- (2) Those proposals absurd in substance.

d. **Right of sponsor.** If the Resolutions Committee determines that a resolution is inappropriate, it shall so advise the author and shall apprise him of his right to present the proposed resolution to the house for determination as to appropriateness.

e. **Format of presentation.** The Resolutions Committee shall:

- (1) Put resolutions in proper form.
- (2) Eliminate duplication where similar resolutions relating to a specific subject will be offered in a logical sequence.

Section 5. Spiritual Life Committee

A Spiritual Life Committee shall be appointed by the general superintendent in conjunction with the Executive Presbytery, selected from a cross section of the Fellowship. The committee shall function for a 2-year period and report to the biennial meeting of the General Council and to the Executive Presbytery as feasible.

Section 6. Other Committees

Other committees may be appointed by the General Presbytery or the Executive Presbytery.

ARTICLE V. DISTRICT COUNCILS

Section 1. Formation of New Districts

a. **Conference status.** In isolated geographical areas where there is a growth and development potential, the first step may be the establishing of a conference status which would provide the supervision and assistance of an existing established district until the new district is capable of an aggressive program.

b. **Guidelines.** Guidelines for the establishing of new districts shall include:

- (1) Number of General Council affiliated churches.

(2) Size and maturity of the churches as to membership, leadership, and program ministries.

(3) The location, the size, and the potential growth of the geographical area under consideration.

(4) The effect the establishing of the proposed new district will have on the district or districts involved.

c. **Boundaries.** The boundaries of the new district shall be determined or rearranged by cooperative agreement between the district or districts involved and the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Section 2. Officers

Each district council shall be authorized to elect a superintendent, secretary-treasurer, and presbyters, together with such other officers as may be deemed advisable by the district membership.

Section 3. Voting Constituency

The voting constituency shall consist of all accredited members present and registered, including ordained and licensed ministers and accredited delegates from affiliated churches.

Section 4. Foreign Language Districts

a. **Recognition qualifications.** In order to become a district of the Assemblies of God, a foreign language group must have a minimum number of 40 churches. Any foreign language group consisting of less than 40 Assemblies of God churches may be authorized by the Executive Presbytery to form a fellowship of churches. The fellowship shall exist for the purpose of exchanging information and facilitating evangelism and the establishing of churches within its group. Until such time as they are qualified to form a district(s), they shall be part of the geographic or foreign language district. Leadership for fellowship groups shall be approved by the Executive Presbytery.

b. **Decrease of churches.** Recognized foreign language districts with less than 40 churches whose number of churches decrease for two consecutive years shall move to a fellowship status.

c. **Equality with geographical districts.** A foreign language district shall have the same privileges and responsibilities which are accorded district councils within the framework of these Constitution and Bylaws.

d. **Cooperative relationship.** Both the foreign language district and the geographical district shall seek to promote a spirit of fellowship and cooperation. The foreign language district officers and the geographical district officers should inform and/or consult together concerning the opening of new foreign language works or institutions of any kind, in a given area. The foreign language churches, whether members of a geographical or foreign language district, are encouraged to unite where possible, in fellowship activities.

e. **Sponsorship and affiliation of a foreign language group.** Should an English-speaking church desire to initiate sponsorship of a foreign language group, it shall consult with its district officials for counsel and guidance. The geographical district should inform and/or consult with foreign language district officers concerning the beginning of a foreign language group within churches belonging to the geographical district. The sponsoring church may provide facilities and/or support to such a work through its district home missions department. Such an effort may be initiated with the objective in mind that it will develop into an Assemblies of God church. When such a church reaches as many as 20 adult foreign language members, it may then seek affiliation with a district of its choice following prescribed guidelines as outlined in these bylaws.

f. **Church transfer procedure.** When a church desires to transfer from a foreign language district to the district in which it is located, a church business meeting shall be properly called and the minutes of said meeting shall reflect the action authorized by the congregation. This action shall be submitted to the officers of the foreign language district and the geographical district. If either district has objections, the church shall have the right of appeal to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution (Article XI).

Section 5. Dissolution of District

a. **Loss of recognition.** In the event an existing district (foreign language or geographical) shall be reduced to less than 40 churches, General Council or district affiliated, its recognition shall cease.

b. **Foreign language districts guidelines.** Guidelines for dissolution of foreign language districts are provided for in Section 4, paragraph a, of this article.

c. **Geographical districts guidelines.** Dissolution of geographical districts shall be the prerogative of the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God in cooperation and consultation with the original district or districts involved.

ARTICLE VI. ASSEMBLIES

Section 1. Procedure for Affiliation

It shall be the responsibility of the district presbytery to determine when an assembly has reached a state of growth, stability, and maturity qualifying it for affiliation with The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Qualifications shall include a minimum active voting membership of 20 persons. The assembly shall have matured to a point where a sufficient number of qualified persons are available for the offices called for in its constitution and bylaws.

The procedure for affiliation shall be:

a. A church desiring affiliation shall forward its request to the office of

the district in which it is situated. The district council shall provide an approved application form and procedural instructions.

b. The meeting in which an assembly shall be set in order shall be presided over by an officer of the district who shall assist the assembly in the adoption of a constitution and bylaws acceptable to the district.

c. An existing, mature church which desires to affiliate with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall apply to the office of the district council for guidance and assistance.

d. Upon approval by the district presbytery, the application for affiliation shall be forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Recognition of affiliation shall be regarded as completed upon receipt by the assembly of an official Certificate of Affiliation to be issued by the general secretary.

Section 2. Annual Report from Assemblies

Each church of the Assemblies of God shall be requested to keep an up-to-date record of its membership and a report of the same shall be sent annually, on forms provided, to the office of the district secretary and the General Council secretary.

Section 3. Safeguarding the Assemblies

Pastors and leaders of assemblies should make proper investigation regarding persons who seek to gain entrance to teach or minister. Use of the platform should be denied until spiritual integrity and reliability have been determined. Since the use of non-Assemblies of God ministers may bring confusion and problems detrimental to the Fellowship, it is recommended that Assemblies of God churches use Assemblies of God ministers. Pastors and district officials should maintain a reciprocal exchange of information relative to unknown persons seeking ministry in our assemblies.

Section 4. Relationships Between Churches, District Councils, and the General Council

a. **Nature.** General Council affiliated churches are deemed to be sovereign, autonomous, self-governing, and self-determining bodies which have, by their sovereign, self-determining action in making application for and receiving recognition as a General Council affiliated church, entered into an agreement with the Fellowship to be amenable to the General Council and district council in matters of doctrine and conduct. (See Article XI, Section 1, paragraph d, of the constitution.)

b. **Relationships.** *Cooperative fellowship* describes both the relationship that exists between local churches and their relationships with the district councils and the General Council.

c. **Organizational assistance.** The services of both the General Council and district council are available to assist the General Council affiliated church in dealing with any of its problems, either internal or external,

when requested by the pastor and/or a majority of the official board of the church or a petition signed by 20 percent of the voting members.

d. **Preservation of affiliation.** In the event the termination of affiliation with The General Council of the Assemblies of God is under consideration by an affiliated assembly, the pastor and/or the board shall invite the district officer to participate in a specially called business meeting for the express purpose of giving the district officer the opportunity to present the case for continued General Council affiliation. Final disposition of the matter may then proceed in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the local church.

Section 5. Guidelines for Minimal Membership for General Council Affiliated Assemblies

When the membership of a General Council affiliated church falls below 20 active voting members, it shall seek the assistance of the district officer for help in maintaining the minimal requirement for General Council affiliation. If after 1 year the minimal number of 20 members is not attained the church shall revert to district affiliated status. The church shall remain in a district council affiliated status until it again meets the standard for affiliation as a General Council affiliated church as provided for in Article XI, Section 1, of the constitution. An application for same shall be filed with the district secretary and approved by the district presbytery.

Section 6. New Assemblies Resulting From a Division

a. **Status of assembly.** When efforts to maintain unity and harmony in an assembly have failed, and a division results in a new congregation being formed, the district should exercise strong and wise leadership in ascertaining the facts and seek to preserve Assemblies of God adherents for the Fellowship. Within the bounds of ethical principles, sound doctrine, and district policy, all districts should seek to retain any meritorious group within the Assemblies of God.

b. **Status of minister.** Circumstances of the occasion would determine whether the minister should be disciplined or denied ministry in either the original church or the dissident group, or even residency in the area where the division occurred. If a minister is guilty of wrong conduct and wrong attitudes resulting in a split, the district presbytery shall deal appropriately with him as provided in Article IX, A, Section 2, of the bylaws.

Section 7. Transfer of Local Church Membership

a. **Letter of introduction.** It is recommended that the member shall request a letter of introduction from the church of which he is a member to be sent by mail to the church with which he wishes to affiliate.

b. **Acknowledgment of transfer.** It is recommended that the receiving church shall give an acknowledgment of transfer to the former church.

ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY

Section 1. Ministry Described

Christ's gifts to the Church include apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers (Ephesians 4:11); exhorters, administrators, leaders, and helpers (Romans 12:7,8).

In terms of maturity of ministry, three classifications of ministry are recognized, viz., the ordained minister, the licensed minister, and the Christian worker.

Ministers holding certificates of ordination, license to preach, and specialized ministries licenses are authorized to perform the ordinances and ceremonies (sacerdotal functions) of the church.

Section 2. Basic Qualifications

The following qualifications pertain to all applicants for ministerial recognition:

- a. **Salvation.** Testimony to having experienced the new birth (John 3:5).
- b. **Baptism in the Holy Spirit.** Testimony to having received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the initial physical evidence of speaking in other tongues according to Acts 2:4. The Spirit-filled life will enable him to fulfill the threefold mission of the church (Article V, paragraph 10, of the constitution).
- c. **Evidence of call.** Clear evidence of a divine call to the ministry, evidenced by a personal conviction, confirmed by the work of the Spirit and the testimony of fellow ministers.
- d. **Christian character.** A blameless Christian life and a good report of those who are without (Titus 1:7; 1 Timothy 3:7).
- e. **Doctrinal position.** A thorough understanding of and agreement with our doctrinal position as contained in the Statement of Fundamental Truths.
- f. **Assemblies of God polity.** A satisfactory working knowledge of the principles, practices, and purposes of the Fellowship through a study of the General Council and district council constitution and bylaws.
- g. **Commitment to the Fellowship.** An active loyalty to our constitutional agreements, a cooperative spirit, and a readiness to seek and receive the counsel of older brethren and those in positions of authority.
- h. **Basic educational requirements.** Any level of formal academic achievement (diploma or degree) shall not be a requirement for credentials; however, it shall be required of applicants that they demonstrate adequate knowledge of (1) the Bible, (2) Assemblies of God doctrines, and (3) ministerial practices by either having completed the prescribed courses of the Berean College of the Assemblies of God as specified by the General Presbytery, or by passing standardized examinations approved by the General Presbytery, which shall give evidence of having accomplished the same through self-study and life experience, or by equivalent training in

an approved school, together with such other training as may be required by respective district councils in conformity with such provisions as are made for applicants by the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

i. **Marriage status.** We disapprove of any married persons holding ministerial credentials with the Assemblies of God or district councils granting credentials to such, if either marriage partner has a former companion living, except as hereinafter provided.

j. **Annulments and marriage dissolutions.** The Executive Presbytery shall have the authority to determine whether an applicant's annulment of a former marriage is consistent with the scriptural position of the Fellowship relating to the granting or holding of ministerial credentials; or, in the case of a divorce or a dissolution whether the circumstances would more appropriately be classified as calling for an annulment. The application must be accompanied by clear and satisfactory evidence of an illegal marriage through deception or fraud. Appeals from the decisions of the Executive Presbytery may be made to the General Presbytery.

k. **Eligibility of women.** The Scriptures plainly teach that divinely called and qualified women may also serve the church in the ministry of the Word (Joel 2:29; Acts 21:9; 1 Corinthians 11:5). Women who have developed in the ministry of the Word so that their ministry is acceptable generally, and who have proved their qualifications in actual service, and who have met all the requirements of the credentials committees of the district councils, are entitled to whatever grade of credentials their qualifications warrant and the right to administer the ordinances of the church when such acts are necessary.

l. **Ministers from other organizations.** If a minister from another reputable body desires to affiliate with the Assemblies of God, the credentials committees of both the General Council and the district councils are under no obligation to accept the applicant's previous ministerial status, but will judge each candidate on his or her own merits as to the level of credentials to be granted. Such applicants shall be required to:

- (1) Conform to Assemblies of God criteria for recognition.
- (2) Complete an application for ministerial recognition.
- (3) Submit a recommendation for ministerial recognition.
- (4) Submit a recommendation from the body with which he/she was formerly affiliated. If such is not available, letters of recommendation should be sought from three reputable ordained ministers who are familiar with the applicant's ministry.
- (5) Take the credential examination.
- (6) Meet with the credentials committee.
- (7) Be recommended by the district credentials committee for the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee.
- (8) All previously ordained ministers so approved shall receive rec-

ognition as ordained Assemblies of God ministers with the laying on of hands by the district presbytery.

(9) Ministers who receive Assemblies of God recognition will relinquish their ministerial credentials with any other organization.

Section 3. Graded Qualifications

a. Christian worker. Efficient helpers in gospel work who devote a part of their time to Christian service, and whenever possible remain under the supervision of a pastor, may be recognized as Christian workers. They shall preach at least 12 times a year or be actively engaged in some other aspect of ministry, except in case of ill health or infirmity.

b. License. Qualifications for license shall be in two categories:

(1) *Preaching ministry.* Clear evidence of a divine call, a practical experience in preaching, together with an evident purpose to devote one's time to preaching the gospel. They shall preach at least 15 times a year, except in case of ill health or infirmity.

(2) *Specialized ministry.* An evident purpose to devote one's time to a specialized ministry such as Christian education, music, church-related ministry by a minister's spouse, or other full-time ministries. The same qualifications as outlined in Section 2 of this article shall apply.

c. Ordained minister. Qualifications for ordination are outlined in the New Testament Scriptures (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:7-9). In addition:

(1) Applicants must be 23 years of age or older.

(2) They must have met all the requirements in making application and in completing the prescribed application form.

(3) No person may be ordained to the ministry until he shall have held a license to preach and shall have been engaged in active work as a pastor, evangelist, or some other recognized and proven full-time preaching ministry for at least 2 full consecutive years immediately prior thereto.

(4) *Residency requirements of applicants.* Applicants must be residents of or hold credentials in the district where they make application and appear before its credentials committee. District councils are required to refrain from approving any applicant for ordination who may have been licensed in another district, until such licensed minister shall have been a member of the district in which he is seeking ordination at least 1 year. If the applicant has not been a member of the district where he applies for ordination for 2 full consecutive years, he must meet the requirements and secure the endorsement of the officary of the district in which he was previously licensed, as well as the district of his residence.

(5) *Exceptions to residency requirements.* In the event that an applicant has qualified and been approved for ordination by the district of his former residence before being publicly ordained, the district

where he resides may waive the 1-year residency requirement and ordain him upon the request or approval of his former district.

(6) In order to maintain active status, ordained ministers must preach at least 15 times each year.

Section 4. Action of Credentials Committee

a. Christian worker and licensed minister. The General Council Credentials Committee delegates to the district councils the authority to approve candidates who qualify as Christian workers and licensed ministers. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed by the districts and forwarded to the office of the general secretary for the issuance of the appropriate credential.

b. Ordained minister. The General Council Credentials Committee has the authority to approve candidates who qualify for ordination. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed and recommended by the districts to the General Council Credentials Committee for approval prior to the public ordination. All ordinations shall take place under the auspices of the district councils.

Section 5. Certificates

The General Council Credentials Committee is authorized to issue Ordination Certificates, Licenses to Preach, Specialized Ministries Licenses, and Christian Workers Certificates, together with the accompanying annual fellowship card, to all properly qualified and approved applicants.

Section 6. Official List

a. Active ministers. The official list of all credential holders shall be compiled by the General Council Credentials Committee and published for the convenience of the Fellowship, with the understanding it is not to be used for purposes of solicitation. This official list shall be revised annually and shall contain the names of those who are engaged in active ministry and whose credentials have been renewed by the issuance of a fellowship card for the current year.

b. Inactive ministers. All credentialed ministers who shall withdraw from active ministry or shall cease to engage in pastoral, evangelistic, or other full-time ministry shall be expected to notify the district office, which shall inform the general secretary. He shall then be authorized to transfer the names of such persons to the inactive list, unless the district of which said person is a member specifically requests otherwise.

(1) *Definition.* All ordained and licensed ministers who shall have preached less than 15 times and Christian workers who shall have preached less than 12 times within a period of 1 year shall have their names placed upon the inactive list for the following year.

(2) *Removal of inactive ministers from ministerial list.* When a minister is definitely inactive for 2 consecutive years, his name shall be eliminated from the ministerial list, unless the credentials committee

of the district of which said person is a member specifically requests otherwise by letter.

(3) *Exceptions.* This shall not apply to those whose inactivity has been caused by the infirmity of old age or ill health; or those engaged in other aspects of full-time ministry such as headquarters or district workers, educators, ministers of music, ministers of youth, and ministers of Christian education; or those who have reached the age of 60 years; or those ministers who have had 25 years of approved service as credentialed ministers.

(4) *Disabled ministers.* A permanently disabled or permanently ill minister whose illness prevents him or her from engaging in active ministry shall be indicated as inactive. The credential status of the disabled minister shall remain unchanged. The annual renewal of his or her credentials shall take place in the regular manner. Disabled ministers thus approved by their district shall not have further obligation of financial support to the General Council.

c. *Restoration to active status.* Should the minister at any time return to active ministry, his or her name may be restored to the active list upon application bearing endorsement by the district officer.

Section 7. Senior Ministers

In respect and honor to those ministers who have given years of service to the Fellowship, senior status shall automatically be given to all credential holders who have reached the age of 65, whether they continue in full-time ministry or not.

a. Terminology

(1) The term *senior-active* shall be used for credential holders who continue to serve three-quarters to full-time in the ministry.

(2) The term *senior-semiretired* shall be used for credential holders who continue to be active, but for half-time or less.

(3) The term *senior-retired* shall be used for those who have ceased to engage in any regular appointed ministry.

b. *Application for retired category.* Senior-semiretired and senior-retired status shall be granted only to those ministers who filed a request for such status with their district office. The district secretary shall forward annually to the general secretary a list of those ministers who have made these requests.

c. Guidelines

(1) *Reports.* Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to file their annual reports and pay the General Council portion of their tithes in the regular manner. Senior-retired ministers shall file an abbreviated report to maintain a correct address file for mail and insurance purposes.

(2) *Sources of income.* These designations and guidelines shall apply regardless of whether the senior minister's income is from his ministry.

from retirement plans or Social Security payments, or from investments or other employment.

(3) *Designation in publications.* No distinguishing mark shall accompany the listing of senior-active in the official publications of the Assemblies of God, but may be so indicated in the working lists used for insurance and retirement purposes. Senior-semiretired and senior-retired ministers shall have this status appropriately indicated in the Official List of Assemblies of God Ministers.

(4) *Support of General Council headquarters.* Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to designate the required amount of support to the General Council headquarters as set forth in Bylaws Article XVIII, Section 1, c. (1). Senior-retired ministers shall be free to distribute as they desire the portion of their tithes previously paid to the General Council.

d. Limitations of this Section 7

(1) *For General Council usage only.* The definitions and decisions included in Section 7 apply only to General Council usage and are not binding upon the various districts, nor to the official legislation under which their members serve.

(2) *Other financial responsibility not circumvented.* No part of Section 7 is intended to modify the responsibility of ministers to their districts nor to terminate the Biblical responsibility for tithing.

Section 8. Ministerial Relations

a. *Amenability.* All ministers holding credentials shall be amenable to both the district council and The General Council of the Assemblies of God in matters of doctrine and conduct.

b. *Affiliation with district of residence.* All credential holders shall be expected to affiliate with the district council within the boundaries of which they reside and work in cooperation with the same.

(1) *Exception.* In the case where a minister resides in one district but pastors a church located in another district, he shall be required to be a member of the district in which the church is located.

(2) *Nationally appointed home missionary.* A nationally appointed home missionary shall become a member of the district in which he/she serves and shall be listed on the ministerial roster of that district by the office of the general secretary. He/she may also retain honorary membership in his/her home district, be listed as a missionary under national appointment in the home district's yearbook, and be extended voice and vote in his/her home district while on official furlough.

d. *Cooperation with other districts.* Ministers shall be expected to cooperate with other district councils in which they may labor temporarily. It is recommended as a standard of proper practice that all ordained and licensed ministers conform to the financial policy of the district with which they are affiliated with the following exceptions:

(1) *Financial responsibility of foreign missionaries.* Foreign missionaries will be obligated to pay \$25 per month to their home district when resident in the U.S. and \$10 per month when resident on their fields.

(2) *Financial responsibility of chaplains.* All chaplains, military and institutional, will be obligated to their home district in the amount of 10 percent of their tithes from income earned from the chaplaincy. All chaplains are also encouraged to make voluntary contributions to the district in which they fulfill their assignments.

(3) *Financial responsibility of nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries.* Nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries shall contribute 25 percent of their tithe to their member district where they serve and 25 percent of their tithe to their home district if they are listed as honorary members. The missionary who ministers in his home district shall contribute a minimum of 50 percent of his/her tithe to that district.

Section 9. Transfer of Credentials

a. **Certificate of transfer.** When a member minister takes up residence in another district, a certificate of transfer shall be issued within 60 days by the district of which he/she is a member, unless there are definite charges pending against him/her. The certificate of transfer shall be accepted by the district into which he/she moves. Exceptions may be made for the following:

- (1) Ministers moving to serve at general headquarters.
- (2) Those who have attained the age of 60 and are no longer engaged in active ministry and those who have attained the age of 65 and are not pastoring a church.
- (3) Those who are in the Armed Forces currently on active duty.
- (4) Those who are serving on the staffs of schools affiliated with the General Council and district council or nonaffiliated schools acceptable to the General Council and the district council in which the school is located.
- (5) Those who are appointed home missionaries or foreign missionaries who are on furlough or on temporary assignment in the United States and reside in a district other than their home district.
- (6) Ministers having membership in one district and a mailing address only in another district.
- (7) Students in schools outside their home districts.
- (8) Those who are serving in a non-Assemblies of God institution providing:
 - (a) They have a regular scope of ministry which reaches beyond district boundaries.
 - (b) Both districts agree to the exception.
 - (c) The institution is acceptable to both districts.

b. **Transcript.** In order to assist a member who is transferring into

another district, a transcript giving helpful information concerning him/her and his/her spouse should accompany the certificate of transfer.

Section 10. Credential Renewals and Reinstatements

a. Terminology

(1) *Renewed.* The term *renewed* shall apply to all ministers who have met the annual deadline for renewal including those who are delinquent but who renew by February 15.

(2) *Reinstated.* The term *reinstated* shall apply to the persons whose names have been deleted from the official ministerial list, who upon application, are approved for restoration of credentials.

b. **Expiration date.** All fellowship certificates are valid only until January 31 of each year and must be renewed annually. The renewing of credentials is the responsibility of the individual minister. In the event a minister does not receive his/her renewal form by January 1, he/she should notify his/her district office.

c. **Grace period until February 15.** All who shall have failed to renew their fellowship certificates by mail postmarked on or before January 31 shall be considered delinquent. They shall be required to pay a late fee of \$25 up until February 15, to be divided equally between the district and General Council offices.

d. **Reinstatement of lapsed minister.** Ministers whose renewal applications are not postmarked by February 15 shall be recorded as lapsed as of the expiration date of January 31. They must make application for reinstatement and pay a nonrefundable fee of \$50, which shall be divided equally between the district and the General Council offices. These ministers shall not be subject to the minimal time-lapse required of those whose credentials have been terminated for other causes.

e. **Reinstatement of other than dismissed minister.** When a minister who is a member of our Fellowship shall have been removed from our rolls for any cause, except failure to renew and dismissal, and shall apply for reinstatement, he/she shall in no case be eligible for reinstatement until at least 6 months shall have elapsed after his/her name has been stricken where he/she resides and be accompanied with a nonrefundable fee of \$50 which will be divided between the national and district offices. (See Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 12, paragraph b, for reinstatement of dismissed minister.)

The district of residence shall seek a letter of clearance from the district which processed the termination and, upon receipt of the clearance, may add its endorsement and forward the application, together with the letter of clearance, to the General Council Credentials Committee for its action.

Section 11. Nondisciplinary Credential Terminations

a. On the initiative of the minister.

(1) *Lapsed.* A minister who does not elect to renew his credentials.

providing there is no cause for disciplinary action, shall be listed as having lapsed. His name shall be published as lapsed in the Assemblies of God Minister, hereinafter referred to as the ministers letter.

(2) *Resigned.* A minister who has elected to remove himself from the Fellowship shall submit a letter of resignation to the district with which he is affiliated. If there is no cause for disciplinary action, his resignation shall be accepted. His termination shall be listed in the ministers letter as resigned.

b. On the initiative of the district. (See Article IX, A, Section 4)

(1) *Inactive.* When a minister becomes inactive for 2 consecutive years, according to the stipulations set forth in Article VII, Section 6, paragraph b, of the bylaws, his name shall be published as inactive in the ministers letter.

(2) *Not renewed.* If in the opinion of the credentials committees a minister's credentials should not be renewed short of disciplinary action, his name shall be published as not renewed in the ministers letter.

c. As a result of affiliation with another church organization. In the event a minister shall identify himself with another organization granting ministerial credentials, and shall have received such credentials, his credentials with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be terminated. An investigation shall be made to determine the proper category of termination.

d. Surrender of credentials. In all cases the minister shall be requested to surrender his credential (Certificate of Ordination, License to Preach, Specialized Ministries License, Christian workers Certificate) and his current fellowship card to the district office. The district shall forward these to the office of the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Refusal to surrender his credential and current fellowship card shall be considered insubordination and may result in placing a charge against the minister.

Section 12. Ministerial Status Changes

All changes in a minister's status are to be reported immediately by his/her district office, which in turn is to report this information to the office of the general secretary of the General Council, on the Ministerial Status Report form provided by that office.

Section 13. Privileged Communications

Assemblies of God ministers are encouraged to respect as sacred and confidential information confided to them while they are functioning in their ministerial capacities as spiritual counselors and are encouraged not to disclose such confidential information except with the permission of the confidant or to prevent the commission of a crime.

ARTICLE VIII. DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES DISAPPROVED

A. COMMISSION ON DOCTRINAL PURITY

a. Authorization and purpose. A Commission on Doctrinal Purity shall be established for the purpose of giving careful attention to preventing deviations from the Statement of Fundamental Truths and proliferation of unscriptural teachings. The commission shall receive its assignments from and make its reports to the Executive Presbytery.

b. Appointments and terms of office. The commission shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall consist of 10 members representing, insofar as possible, the geographic area divisions of the Assemblies of God. Members shall be recognized authorities in Biblical knowledge. Their terms of office shall be for 4 years.

c. Vacancies and terminations. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to declare the office of any commission member vacant should it deem such action advisable. A decision to declare a vacancy and to fill such vacancy may be made at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery.

B. LIST OF DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES DISAPPROVED

In accord with its constitutional prerogatives, The General Council of the Assemblies of God has declared itself pertaining to disapproval of certain matters as follows:

Section 1. Unconditional Security

In view of the Biblical teaching that the security of the believer depends on a living relationship with Christ (John 15:6); in view of the Bible's call to a life of holiness (1 Peter 1:16; Hebrews 12:14); in view of the clear teaching that a man may have his part taken out of the Book of Life (Revelation 22:19); and in view of the fact that one who believes for a while can fall away (Luke 8:13); The General Council of the Assemblies of God disapproves of the unconditional security position which holds that it is impossible for a person once saved to be lost.

Section 2. Legalism

a. Matters of conscience. The Assemblies of God disapproves of those who hold to matters of conscience, such as the eating or not eating of meats, who press their personal opinions on others.

b. Adding conditions to salvation. The Assemblies of God also disapproves of those who hold to issues which seem to add conditions to salvation, such as the keeping of the seventh day, who press their opinions on others.

Section 3. Eschatological Errors

a. The restitution of all things. The Assemblies of God understands the teaching of Acts 3:21 to limit the restoration to that of which the

prophets have spoken, thus denying the universal redemption theory. We are opposed to all forms of universalism (Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:10).

b. Setting a date for the Lord's return. It is unwise to teach that the Lord will come at some specified time, thereby setting a date for His appearing (Mark 13:32,33; Luke 12:37-40; 1 Thessalonians 5:2). It is also unwise to give out from the platform, or publish, visions of numbers and dates fixing the time of the second coming of the Lord.

c. Post-Tribulation Rapture. The General Council of the Assemblies of God has declared itself in the Statement of Fundamental Truths that it holds to the belief in 'the imminent coming of the Lord as the blessed hope of the Church; and since the teaching that the Church must go through the Tribulation tends to bring confusion and division among the saints, it is recommended that all our ministers teach the imminent coming of Christ, warning all men to be prepared for that coming, which may occur at any time, and not lull their minds into complacency by any teaching that would cause them to feel that specific Tribulation events must occur before the rapture of the saints.

d. Amillennialism. The General Council of the Assemblies of God disapproves of the amillennial teaching and its attendant erroneous philosophy which denies the fact of a literal 1,000 years' reign of Christ on the earth, and substitutes for it the theory that this Christian or Church dispensation is the spiritual Millennium of which, its proponents say, the Bible writers prophesied.

e. Credentials jeopardized if made an issue. We recommend that should any of our ministers embrace any of the foregoing eschatological errors, they refrain from preaching or teaching them. Should they persist in emphasizing these doctrines to the point of making them an issue, their standing in the Fellowship will be seriously affected (Luke 21:34-36; 1 Thessalonians 5:9,10; 2 Thessalonians 1:4-10; Revelation 3:10,19,20).

Section 4. Membership in Secret Orders

Ours is a last-day message in preparation for the coming of the Lord (Matthew 24:14), leaving us no alternative but wholehearted devotion to the cause of spreading the gospel (Luke 9:62), and it is well known that the various secret orders require much valuable time and interest, thus diverting the servant of the Lord out of the way (Ephesians 5:16).

The nature of such organizations demands secrecy (John 18:20; Acts 26:26) reinforced by religious oaths (Matthew 5:34) and strong attachment by binding obligations to persons who are for the most part unregenerated (2 Corinthians 6:14). The spirit, philosophy, and general influence of such secret orders aim at the improvement of the natural man only (1 Corinthians 2:14; Colossians 2:8), thus wrongly channeling by incorrect interpretation important spiritual truths (2 Peter 3:16).

Confidence in these secret orders and their teachings has always tended

toward the embracing of a false hope of salvation through good works and improved moral service (Ephesians 2:8,9).

In consideration of the foregoing, all ministers affiliated with us should refrain from identifying themselves with any of the secret orders which we recognize as essentially of the world, worldly, and we advise any who may have identified themselves with such orders to sever their connections therewith (2 Corinthians 6:17). Furthermore, our ministers are requested to use their good influence among our lay members to dissuade them from such fraternal affiliations (1 Timothy 4:12; 2 Timothy 2:24-26).

Section 5. Divorce and Remarriage

a. Membership

(1) *Marriage entanglements before conversion.* There are now among Christian people those who became entangled in their marriage relations in their former lives of sin and who do not see how these matters can be adjusted. We recommend that these people be received into the membership of local assemblies and that their marriage complications be left in the hands of the Lord (1 Corinthians 7:17,20,24).

(2) *Common-law marriage.* We recommend that in no case shall persons be accepted into membership who are known to be living in a common-law state of matrimony.

b. Remarriage. Low standards on marriage and divorce are very hurtful to individuals, to the family, and to the cause of Christ. Therefore, we discourage divorce by all lawful means and teaching. We positively disapprove of Christians getting divorces for any cause except fornication and adultery (Matthew 19:9). Where these exceptional circumstances exist or when a Christian has been divorced by an unbeliever, we recommend that the question of remarriage be resolved by the believer as he walks in the light of God's Word (1 Corinthians 7:15,27,28).

c. Local church leadership

(1) *Standard for offices of bishop, or elder, and deacon.* Since the New Testament restricts divorced and remarried believers from the church offices of bishop, or elder, and deacon, we recommend that this standard be upheld by all our assemblies (Titus 1:5-9; 1 Timothy 3:12). However, we recommend that all other opportunities for Christian service for which these believers may be qualified be made available to them.

(2) *Prerogative of local assemblies.* It is understood that recommendations are not binding, but local assemblies shall maintain the prerogative of setting their own standards (in accord with provisions of Article XI of the constitution).

d. Performing marriage ceremonies

(1) *Ministerial guidelines.* We disapprove of any Assemblies of God minister performing a marriage ceremony for anyone who has been

divorced and whose former companion is still living, unless his case is included in the exceptional circumstances described in Article VIII, B, Section 5, paragraph b. Any minister of our Fellowship who performs a ceremony for a disapproved marriage (indicated above), unless he has been innocently deceived into doing so, may be dismissed from the Fellowship. An Assemblies of God minister is required to counsel applicants for marriage ceremonies with scriptural guidelines for Christian marriage prior to the performing of the ceremony. He may not perform ceremonies for persons who, in the minister's opinion, approach marriage without proper forethought, wisdom, and sobriety.

(2) *Violation of conscience not required.* We realize that the remarriage of such persons included in the exceptive circumstances in Article VIII, B, Section 5, paragraph b, could violate the conscience of a minister, and if this should be the case, the minister should not be expected to perform such ceremonies.

e. Ministerial credentials. We disapprove of any married minister of the Assemblies of God holding credentials if either minister or spouse has a former companion living. (See also Article VII, Section 2, paragraphs i and j.)

Section 6. Worldliness

In view of the alarming erosion of national moral standards, we reaffirm our intention of holding up Bible standards against all forms of worldliness. We urge all believers to "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.... For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world" (1 John 2:15,16).

In its teaching regarding worldliness, the Scripture warns against participation in activity which defiles the body, or corrupts the mind and spirit; the inordinate love of or preoccupation with pleasures, position, or possessions, which lead to their misuse; manifestation of extreme behavior, unbecoming speech, or inappropriate appearance; any fascination or association which lessens one's affection for spiritual things (Luke 21:34,35; Romans 8:5-8; 12:1,2; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Ephesians 5:11; 1 Timothy 2:8-10; 4:12; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17; Titus 2:12).

Section 7. Abuses of Stewardship

a. Tithing

(1) According to the Scriptures, tithes should be used for the support of the active ministry and for the propagation of the gospel and work of the Lord and not be given to charity or used for other purposes. In tithing, the ministers ought to be examples.

(2) We recognize the duty of tithing and urge all our people to pay tithes to God. It is recommended that arrangements satisfactory to the pastor and the church be made by all pastors and churches, so that the pastor may receive regular and adequate support. We disapprove, how-

ever, of the teaching that all tithes necessarily should belong to the pastor for his support.

b. Solicitation of funds

(1) It is considered improper and unethical for ministers or missionaries to solicit funds, by letter or otherwise, for anything or any reason whatsoever without proper authorization.

(2) The purpose of this section is not to hinder or discourage legitimate projects but to protect the Fellowship from those who employ methods not in harmony with Assemblies of God principles or policies.

Leaders in local projects shall have unquestioned freedom in local churches or communities.

Projects of general interest to the district must have authorization of the district officer.

Projects or institutions of national scope must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Promotion of all projects of a missions character must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery.

(3) The obtaining and use of mailing lists for promotional purposes not having proper authorization or which are not in keeping with policies of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be considered improper and unethical, whether it be under the name of a prayer chain beyond a local scope, chain letters, or appeals to the constituency for the support of ventures of strictly local or personal character. All offenders guilty of the practices expressed in the foregoing paragraphs shall be subject to discipline.

c. Private ownership of religious institutions. The General Council of the Assemblies of God approves the holding of title to all church buildings, schools, or other institutions that are supported by funds solicited for the work of God by properly constituted corporations. It disapproves the holding title to such properties by the ministers of the Assemblies of God, through private ownership, corporation of sole, closed corporation or any other type of ownership where initiative of action or final authority is not vested in a corporation of the whole. In the event a local congregation is not incorporated or set in order by the district council, title should be vested in properly qualified trustees. Where private ownership exists, a properly incorporated body shall be formed and title to the property shall be transferred to the corporation, taking into consideration equity that the title holder may legitimately have.

A disregard of this principle and recommendation shall seriously affect the relation of the Assemblies of God members involved in such ownership.

Section 8. Violations of Ministerial Courtesy

All discourteous conduct is disapproved, and all ministers are advised against interfering with pastors in charge of assemblies, whether it be by

going in upon their work without consent or by such correspondence with members of the assembly as will hurt the influence of the leader. All correspondence which concerns the whole assembly shall be addressed to the one in charge and not to individual members. Where there is no pastor, letters concerning the work shall be addressed to the officers of the assembly.

Any minister who so offends shall be subject to scriptural discipline as an offender by the district officary or by the Executive Presbytery. Such discourtesy will seriously affect the granting of annual fellowship cards and may be the basis for their recall.

Section 9. Ministry in a Non-Assemblies Church

Ministers shall not be limited or restrained from entering open doors to preach this Pentecostal message, so long as they retain Assemblies of God doctrine, standards of holiness, proper attitudes, and proper ministerial conduct without compromise.

Inasmuch as unity is a vital principle for growth and spiritual development of the Assemblies of God fellowship, it is essential that we recognize our relationship to each other and that we practice Christian co-operation in all our pastoral, evangelistic, missionary, and local church work.

We recommend therefore that our ministers confer with district council officials before engaging in ministry in any church group or organization not affiliated with the Assemblies of God so as to ascertain whether such ministry might result in confusion or misunderstandings. If the minister does not have district approval, he shall be expected to refrain from conducting services for the church. Ministers who violate this principle shall be considered as having opened the door for censure or charge which may necessitate the recall of their credentials.

Section 10. An Improper Attitude Toward Those Removed From the Fellowship

In order to render effective decisions made in the interest of proper discipline and for the protection of our assemblies, all who hold credentials shall refrain from taking any attitude toward offenders that would tend to nullify or set at naught the solemn verdict of the brethren entrusted with this responsibility. The offenders shall be subject to reprimand or, if persisted in, appropriate discipline.

Section 11. The Ecumenical Movement

The General Council of the Assemblies of God disapproves of ministers or churches participating in any of the modern ecumenical organizations on a local, national, or international level in such a manner as to promote the Ecumenical Movement, because:

a. We believe the basis of doctrinal fellowship of said movement to be so broad that it includes people who reject the inspiration of Scripture, the deity of Christ, the universality of sin, the substitutionary atonement,

and other cardinal teachings which we understand to be essential to biblical Christianity.

b. We believe the emphases of the Ecumenical Movement to be at variance with what we hold to be biblical priorities, frequently displacing the urgency of individual salvation with social concerns.

c. We believe that the combination of many religious organizations into a world superchurch will culminate in the religious Babylon of Revelation 17 and 18.

(This is not to be interpreted to mean that a limitation may be imposed upon any Assemblies of God minister regarding his Pentecostal witness or participation on a local level with interdenominational activities.)

ARTICLE IX. DISCIPLINE

A. DISTRICT ACTION

Section 1. The Nature and Purposes of Discipline

Discipline is an exercise of scriptural authority for which the church is responsible. The aims of discipline are that God may be honored, that the purity and welfare of the ministry may be maintained, and that those under discipline may be brought to repentance and restoration.

Discipline is to be administered for the restoration of the minister, while fully providing for the protection of the spiritual welfare of our local assemblies. It is to be redemptive in nature as well as corrective and is to be exercised as under a dispensation of mercy.

Section 2. The Relationship Between the District and General Council Credentials Committees

The Executive Presbytery of the General Council is the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God (Constitution Article X, Paragraphs d and f). It shall have the final authority in matters of doctrine and the personal conduct of all ministers. District actions related to the termination of credentials or the remedial discipline of rehabilitation are to be in the form of recommendations to the General Council Credentials Committee.

Section 3. Causes of Disciplinary Action

Violations of Assemblies of God principles as stated in these Constitution and Bylaws may give cause for disciplinary action by the credentials committees. Among such causes for action shall be:

- a. Any moral failure involving sexual misconduct.
- b. Any moral or ethical failure other than sexual misconduct.
- c. General inefficiency in the ministry.
- d. A failure to represent our Pentecostal testimony correctly.
- e. A contentious or noncooperative spirit.
- f. An assumption of dictatorial authority over an assembly.
- g. An arbitrary rejection of district counsel.
- h. A declared open change in doctrinal views

- i. A habit of running into debt which brings reproach upon the cause.
 - j. A marriage in violation of our stand on marriage and divorce. (See Article VIII, B, Section 5, paragraphs d and e.)
 - k. Violations of ministerial courtesy.
- (See Article VIII, B, Section 8.)
- l. Ministry without prior approval in a non-Assemblies church. (See Article VIII, B, Section 9.)
 - m. An improper attitude toward those dismissed from the Fellowship. (See Article VIII, B, Section 10.)

Section 4. Right of Initiative

a. **Authority.** Occasions sometimes arise which make it necessary to deal with ministers who for some reason seem to have reached the place where, in the opinion of the brethren, endorsement can no longer be given. Credentials committees which have the authority to ordain ministers and to recommend them for credentials also have the right to withdraw their approval and to recommend the recall of credentials.

b. **Prior right of district.** The officary of the district in which an alleged offense is reported to have occurred shall be recognized as having the prior right of initiative in matters of discipline.

c. **Responsibility of district of affiliation.** If the district in which an alleged offense is reported to have occurred for some reason cannot take action, the General Council Credentials Committee shall refer the matter, together with the facts and supporting instruments, to the district with which the minister is affiliated.

d. **Responsibility of General Council Credentials Committee.** In the event a district fails to take action within 90 days after a matter has been referred to it, it shall be the responsibility of the General Council Credentials Committee to see that action is initiated.

Section 5. Investigation of Reports or Complaints of Alleged Violations or Confessions of Violations of Assemblies of God Principles

a. **Within the Districts of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.** Reports or complaints of alleged violations of Assemblies of God principles (Article IX, A, Section 3) or confessions of such by a minister shall be investigated. The superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is reported to have occurred, and/or an appointed representative(s) shall conduct the investigation to determine their source and validity. It is the responsibility of the district superintendent to safeguard the church, the minister, the district, and the Fellowship. In the event such reports or complaints against a minister are filed with the General Council Credentials Committee, they shall be referred to the district in which the offense occurred for investigation. A copy shall be sent to the district with which the minister is affiliated.

(1) **Interview with Complainant(s).** The persons involved shall be interviewed in order to ascertain the facts in the case and the reasons underlying the persistence of the reports or complaints.

(2) **Interview with accused minister(s).** The accused minister(s) shall be given an opportunity to be interviewed to discuss the complaints received in the hope that the matter can be resolved.

(3) **Signed complaints.** In the event the investigation so warrants, signed complaints shall be filed with the district office by the complainant(s) describing the alleged violation(s).

(4) **Conditions for ministry during investigation.** Conditions of continuing ministry may be subject to restriction during the time of investigation at the discretion of the appropriate district officers on the basis of evidence at hand and the nature of the alleged offense. Such conditions are subject to review in 3-month intervals until such investigation has been completed resulting in either clearing the person of the allegations or the filing of formal charges.

b. **Outside United States.** In case the alleged misconduct occurs outside the United States in an area under the general oversight of the Division of Foreign Missions, that division shall take the initiative to file complete data with the district of the minister's affiliation. Any hearing or trial affecting that individual's ministerial credentials shall be held in the district of the minister's affiliation. The Division of Foreign Missions shall convey all information available to the said district as follows:

(1) **Report to district of affiliation.** At the earliest date after the Division of Foreign Missions receives a report of misconduct, such report shall be conveyed by telephone and by letter to the superintendent of the district with which the minister is affiliated.

(2) **Confidential file.** A confidential file shall be submitted to the superintendent, conveying to him all information as it becomes available to the division. A final complete file shall be prepared under the direction of the field director of the field involved and shall be presented to the district superintendent for use in any action the district may take.

(3) **Additional information.** When in the judgment of the Division of Foreign Missions or the district involved, basic information is lacking (which information may be available at the site of the alleged misconduct), arrangements may be made for the gathering of such.

Section 6. Preparation and Filing of Charges

If after due investigation it is determined that charges should be made, proper charges shall be prepared and filed in the district office. If no one appears to sign the charges, members of the district officary making the investigation may file charges based on the evidence in their possession. The person against whom charges have been filed shall be informed in writing by certified mail of the charges made in keeping with Article IX, Section 3.

Section 7. District Hearing and Discipline

a. **District hearing.** In the event the reports or complaints cannot be dealt with privately to the satisfaction of all concerned, the superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is said to have occurred, or the superintendent of the district with which the minister is affiliated, shall arrange for a hearing by the district credentials committee for the accused minister. The minister shall be required to appear at the hearing in the hope the matter can be resolved.

b. **Forfeiture of rights of accused.** A hearing shall not be considered as final disposition of the case until the accused be present and be allowed all rights and privileges granted herein. However, an accused member may be found guilty of charges and disciplined if he refuses to appear at the hearing, or if proof is found of willful neglect on his part to take advantage of his rights and privileges.

c. Discipline

(1) *Cause for discipline.* A minister who has been found guilty of violating any of the Assemblies of God principles set forth in Article IX, A, Section 3, either by a confession of the minister involved or by deliberation of the district presbytery, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

(2) *Determination of discipline.* It shall be the responsibility of the credentials committees to determine whether the circumstances of the case merit rehabilitation or dismissal. The credentials committees shall weigh decisions on: (a) the basis of the offense itself, (b) the manner and thoroughness of repentance, (c) the attitude of the offending minister toward the discipline, and (d) the willingness manifested to cooperate.

(3) *Administering discipline redemptively.* If the district determines that guilt has been established, discipline shall be administered prayerfully and in the fear of God, in accordance with the Scriptures, and as set forth in the constitution and bylaws of this ecclesiastical body (Bylaws Article IX, A., Sections 8 and 9).

d. **Surrender of credentials.** The disciplined minister shall be required to surrender his ministerial credentials and his current fellowship card to the district office. In the event of rehabilitation the credentials shall be held in the district office. In the event of dismissal the district shall forward the credentials to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Refusal to surrender his ministerial credentials and current fellowship card may result in placing an additional charge against the minister.

Section 8. Rehabilitation

Recognizing that the underlying principle involved in discipline is redemptive, and that man's conscience frequently brings him to judgment and confession, and that justice can sometimes be best served with mercy, an effort should be made to lead the offending minister through a program

of rehabilitation, administered in brotherly love and kindness. The following provisions for rehabilitation shall apply.

a. **Basis.** Those found to have violated any of the Assemblies of God principles (Article IX, A, Section 3) may request a program of rehabilitation as an alternative to dismissal. Granting such request shall be at the discretion of the district and General Council credentials committees.

b. **Period of time.** The program for rehabilitation shall continue for not less than 1 year except when the violation involves misconduct defined in Article IX, A, Section 3, paragraph a, in which case it shall continue for not less than 2 years.

c. **Procedure and requirements.** The following procedure shall be used by the district presbytery in determining the specific requirements to rehabilitation for the individual minister.

(1) *Rehabilitation requirements.* The specific terms and conditions of the rehabilitation program as recommended by the district credentials committee are to be forwarded to the General Council Credentials Committee for approval. After such approval they shall be given to the minister.

(a) *Suspension.* The minister shall be considered to be under suspension during the entire period of rehabilitation.

(b) *Extent of ministry.* The extent to which ministry may be permitted, if any, shall be determined by the district presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee. Certain offenses may not require complete cessation of ministerial activities, although some restrictions or limitations may be warranted.

(c) *District membership.* The minister shall not be permitted to transfer his membership to another district during the period of rehabilitation.

(d) *Publication.* While the minister's credentials are in a state of suspension, his name shall not be removed from the ministerial roster, nor shall his disciplinary status be published in either the General Council or district council official publications.

(e) *Credentials renewal.* He shall renew his credentials annually in the regular manner.

(f) *Supervision.* In the event his ministerial activity has been terminated, the minister must become established in a local church working under the supervision of a pastor or presbyter.

(g) *Reports.* The minister must submit reports quarterly to the district superintendent.

(h) *Ministerial benefits.* During the program of rehabilitation the minister shall continue to be eligible for benefits such as the ministers group insurance and Ministers Benefit Association.

(i) *Program administration.* The approved rehabilitation program shall be administered by the district presbytery.

(2) *District progress reports.* The credentials committee of the district shall submit to the General Council Credentials Committee on February 1 and August 1 of each calendar year a progress report relative to the rehabilitation of ministers under discipline.

(3) *Completion of rehabilitation.* When the rehabilitation program has been satisfactorily completed the suspension shall be lifted and the minister shall be restored to good standing.

(4) *Classified information.* The rehabilitation record shall not accompany the Certificate of Transfer to another district. The information shall be preserved for future reference in the files of the district and the General Council Credentials Committee.

d. Eligibility in Special Circumstances

(1) *Previous rehabilitation.* In the event a minister has completed a prior rehabilitation program, and is again found to be in violation of Assemblies of God principles, the district shall first obtain permission from the General Council Credentials Committee before recommending a second rehabilitation program as prescribed in Section 8 of this article.

(2) *Previous dismissal.* In the event a minister who has been dismissed requests reinstatement, the district shall first obtain permission from the General Council Credentials Committee before submitting an appropriate rehabilitation program as prescribed in Section 8 of this article. He shall not be eligible for reinstatement until the requirements for rehabilitation have been completed. Consideration may also be given to a minister if in the opinion of the credentials committees he has satisfactorily fulfilled the remedial requirements of such rehabilitation.

Section 9. Referral for Action to the General Council Credentials Committee

a. District recommendation

(1) *Rehabilitation.* When a minister is to be placed in a rehabilitation program in accordance with Section 8 of this article, the district shall forward to the General Council Credentials Committee the specific charges and recommended terms of rehabilitation. The district shall inform the minister involved of its action and, where applicable, the superintendent of the minister's district of affiliation.

(2) *Dismissal.* When a minister has been found guilty of violating any of the Assemblies of God principles as set forth in Article IX, A, Section 3, and it is determined that rehabilitation is not feasible or fails, a minister's credentials are to be terminated by dismissal. The district shall forward to the General Council Credentials Committee the specific charges and its recommendation for dismissal. The district shall inform the minister involved of its action and, where applicable, the superintendent of the minister's district of affiliation.

b. General Council Credentials Committee action. The General Council Credentials Committee shall consider the recommendation of the dis-

trict and shall concur if in its judgment the district was justified in the action taken. If the General Council Credentials Committee does not concur, it may remand the case, together with its recommendations, back to the district for review and reconsideration. The district shall report the results of its recommendation to the General Council Credentials Committee for final disposition.

c. General Council to hold information. All pertinent information relating to the disciplinary action taken against a minister shall be preserved for future reference in the office of the General Council Credentials Committee.

d. Final disposition. The general secretary shall notify the minister and the district(s) involved of the final disposition of the case.

Section 10. Right of Appeal for a Trial

Thirty days from the date of the notification of the decision of the General Council Credentials Committee shall be allowed for an accused minister to request a trial. He shall be apprised officially of this right at the time of the decision of the General Council Credentials Committee. The appeal is to be sent to the office of the general superintendent, with copies sent to the superintendent of the minister's district of affiliation and any other districts involved. The procedure to follow in appeals for and the granting of a trial are outlined in Bylaws Article IX, B, Section 1.

Section 11. Publication of Dismissal

No publication of a dismissed minister's name shall be made until the district has been advised by the office of the general secretary that such has been authorized by the General Council Credentials Committee. An additional 30 days from the date of the notification shall be given the dismissed minister to exercise his right of appeal.

Section 12. Reinstatement of Credentials

a. Authorization. Application for reinstatement may be made through the district council within which territory the applicant resides. The application shall be considered subject to the approval of the district in which the termination was made.

b. Minimal time-lapse for dismissed ministers. The minimal time-lapse required before a minister who has been dismissed is eligible for reinstatement shall be 1 year, except it shall be 2 years for a minister who has been dismissed because of charges as stated in Article IX, A, Section 3, paragraph a. The time-lapse shall be computed from the date of the district presbytery action as it appears on the ministerial status report filed with the General Council Credentials Committee. (See Bylaws Article VII, Section 10, for other renewals and reinstatements.)

c. Rehabilitation obligatory. When a minister has been dismissed from our Fellowship and applies for reinstatement, he shall comply with the procedures for rehabilitation outlined in Section 8, d, (2), of this article.

d. Option to refer to General Presbytery. The General Council Credentials Committee may also hold the reinstatement of a minister's credentials in abeyance until the next session of the General Presbytery in order that the General Presbytery may have the opportunity to review the case, in which event the matter of reinstatement of such minister may be left entirely with that body.

e. Reinstatement fee. When applying for reinstatement the minister must include a \$50 reinstatement fee with his application which shall be divided equally between the district council and the General Council.

B. TRIAL BY JURY

Section 1. Right of Appeal and Authorization for a Trial

a. Filing of appeal. If a disciplined minister desires to appeal from the decision that has been rendered, his request shall be filed by him with the office of the general superintendent within 30 days of his notification. A copy of his appeal must be sent to the superintendent of the minister's home district, and copies filed with other districts involved.

b. Record of proceedings. The district shall be expected to furnish a record of the proceedings leading up to the district action.

c. Remanding of case to district. If in the judgment of the General Council Credentials Committee, justice has not been served, the case shall be remanded to the district presbytery for review and reconsideration.

d. Authorization for a trial. In the event there is no change of viewpoint by the district, a trial by jury may be authorized by the General Council Credentials Committee.

e. Denial of appeal.

(1) *Forfeiture of right of appeal.* No trial shall be granted if proof is found of willful neglect on the part of the accused to take advantage of his rights and privilege of trial.

(2) *Insufficient grounds for appeal.* The General Council Credentials Committee shall have the prerogative to determine whether there is sufficient cause to authorize a trial.

f. Surrender of credentials. The accused minister shall be required to surrender his current fellowship card, to be retained by the district until the case has been tried and judgment has been rendered. Refusal to surrender his credentials shall be considered insubordination and may result in the placing of an additional charge against the minister.

g. Right to appeal to General Presbytery. A disciplined minister who has been denied a trial may appeal to the General Presbytery for that right. The decision of the General Presbytery shall be final.

Section 2. Responsibility for Arrangements and Expenses of Trial

The appointed judge shall be responsible for making arrangements in

the trial of members, as outlined in subsequent sections of this article. In the event it should appear to the General Council Credentials Committee, after consultation with the district, that it would not be feasible to conduct a trial within the bounds of the district where the alleged offense may have occurred, the said Credentials Committee shall designate a more suitable location.

The defendant shall be responsible for the expenses of his own witnesses and counsel.

Section 3. The Judge

The district executive officers, or the district presbytery, shall select a presiding judge, who shall be approved by the General Council Credentials Committee. The judge shall be a mature, ordained minister in good standing in fellowship with The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Any person known to be prejudiced toward the case shall be disqualified to serve as judge. The judge shall be authorized and instructed to conduct a fair trial.

Section 4. The Jury

The jury shall be chosen by the presiding judge, subject to agreement both by the plaintiff and the defendant. The jury shall be composed of six ordained ministers who are mature men in good standing in fellowship with the Assemblies of God. There shall be one or more qualified alternates present. The plaintiff and defendant must present valid reasons for the disqualification of a juror prior to the time of trial.

Section 5. Time and Place

The time and place for the trial shall be determined by the judge, with the convenience of the principals fully considered in connection therewith. Trials shall be held at a place convenient to the location where the facts of the case are available.

Section 6. Notice of Trial

Preceding the trial the accused shall be notified by the judge of the time and place of trial by registered or certified mail, with a return receipt requested. Up to 30 days shall be allowed to make all necessary arrangements for the trial. An extension of time may be granted at the discretion of the judge upon request by the defendant, or upon a request by the plaintiff. Such notice of trial shall be accompanied by a copy of the charges in writing, which shall be provided by the district.

Refusal of the defendant to appear for trial may be interpreted as an admission of guilt and shall result in forfeiture of his right to appeal any decision rendered and any discipline administered.

Section 7. Conduct of Trial

Trials shall be conducted in all fairness to all concerned as brethren in the ministry and in accordance with Assemblies of God principles and rules for trial by jury as herein defined. Considering the nature of such a

trial only participants shall be permitted to attend. No discourtesy to anyone shall be allowed. Counsel in the case must conduct the trial subject to the rulings of the presiding judge. When objections to such rulings are made, they shall be written into the record, but the ruling shall stand for the trial.

Any person involved in or attending a trial, who shall engage in discourteous action or misbehavior, or who shall disregard the rulings of the court, may be held in contempt of court by the judge. The judge shall then order that the record of the court proceeding shall show such ruling. Charges or penalties may be placed against the offender. Should the defendant be found in contempt and refuse to comply with the ruling of the court, the judge may adjourn the court and submit his report to the credentials committees of the district and The General Council of the Assemblies of God. In this event the previous rulings in the case shall stand. Such decision will not jeopardize the defendant's right to appeal.

Section 8. Counsel

A mature, ordained minister, resident in the district, and in good standing in The General Council of the Assemblies of God, shall be chosen by the district to conduct the case for the plaintiff. The accused may conduct his own case or be represented by another ordained minister. Counsel for the defendant must be in good standing in The General Council of the Assemblies of God and in his respective district.

Both the counsel for plaintiff and defendant shall recognize the spiritual implications of their trust. They shall be obligated to present only pertinent material relating to the case.

Section 9. Record and Report of Trial

Provision shall be made by the plaintiff, with the approval of the judge, for making a true and accurate record of the trial. This shall be the official record and shall be kept on file in the district office for future reference. A certified copy of all records shall be forwarded to the General Council Credentials Committee. If the offense shall have occurred in any district other than the one in which the accused is a member, a report of the findings of the trial shall be filed with the superintendent of his district. These records, as certified, are the sole property of the district council and of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and are to be held in their respective files.

Section 10. Witnesses

Witnesses shall be free to testify under the direction of counsel. They shall not be required to answer questions asked by anyone other than the one presiding or the counsel who is at the time conducting the inquiry. Interrogation of witnesses and the taking of testimony from them shall be conducted in a Christlike manner, for the purpose of establishing the facts of the case.

No undue influence or unfair means shall be allowed to affect the tes-

timony of witnesses. Opportunity for cross-examination of witnesses shall be given as the case proceeds.

Section 11. Order of Trial

a. The plaintiff. The counsel for the plaintiff shall first present all testimony and exhibits intended to prove the charges made against the defendant. No testimony except such as is relevant to the charges shall be allowed. The counsel for the defendant shall have opportunity to examine all exhibits and cross-examine all witnesses.

b. The defendant. Counsel for the defendant shall be allowed time and opportunity to present his side of the case and shall be granted all due respect and consideration.

Defense testimony shall be confined to disproving the charges and must not include countercharges against anyone, or use the attitude or conduct of others as reason or excuse for the alleged misconduct. This shall not exclude the right to impeach a witness.

Counsel for the plaintiff shall have opportunity to examine all exhibits and cross-examine all witnesses.

c. Review. When the defense has rested, the case may be reviewed by counsel for each side, beginning with the defense.

d. Instructions to the jury. The case shall be given to the jury with proper instructions by the presiding judge. Such instructions shall be confined to setting forth the true basis of judgment in the case as represented by the evidence and shall in no wise be intended to prejudice the jury.

Accusation does not imply guilt, but may imply a misunderstanding or wrong information. The purpose of a trial is to arrive at all available facts relative to the case and to render a verdict based upon the evidence submitted. Judgment in the case shall be rendered in accord with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The jury shall be instructed to choose one of its number to serve as foreman when it retires to the jury room. The foreman shall lead the jurors in the review of the case and shall poll the jurors until a decision is reached.

Should there seem to be no possibility of reaching a decision of a two-thirds majority after repeated ballots, the foreman shall so apprise the judge. It shall be the prerogative of the judge to determine whether the balloting shall continue. Should the jury be unable to reach a verdict, the judge shall dismiss the jury and declare a mistrial. In the event of a mistrial because the jury cannot reach a verdict, the judge shall set the date for a new trial and a new jury will be selected.

Section 12. The Verdict

The verdict shall be reached by a two-thirds vote of the jury, and when presented to the court, the judge shall announce the verdict and adjourn the court, advising the defendant if found guilty that his counsel will inform

him of his further rights of appeal. It shall then be the responsibility of the counsel for the defense to advise the defendant of his rights and privileges of appeal from the decision of the court.

The judge shall file his report with the district involved and with the General Council Credentials Committee. The district shall take appropriate action in accordance with the verdict rendered.

Section 13. New Trials

a. **Right of appeal.** The defendant may appeal from the decision of a court. Appeal shall be filed with the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, and notice of such appeal shall be made in writing addressed to the general superintendent. A copy of notice of appeal shall be given and appeal made within 30 days following the date of notification of the verdict.

In the event the trial occurred in a district other than the one in which the defendant is a member, a copy of the appeal shall also be filed with the superintendent of his home district.

b. **Bases for appeals.** Appeals from the decision of the court affecting the minister's standing in the Assemblies of God fellowship as a result of a trial may be made only upon the following grounds:

(1) *Mistrial.* When there has been error either in arrangement for trial or method of conducting the same, or in the case of a verdict unsupported by sufficient evidence;

(2) *New evidence.* After final decision has been rendered, in the event new evidence is presented to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, such new trial shall be authorized and conducted as herein defined.

c. **Review by the Appeals Board.** The Executive Presbytery on notice of an appeal shall appoint an Appeals Board of seven impartial ordained ministers of The General Council of the Assemblies of God to hear the case and render a decision. Appeal from a trial cannot result in a retrial at the Assemblies of God national headquarters. It shall be the duty of the Appeals Board to review the case, carefully examining the official record of trial.

All appeals shall be considered on the basis of the record of trial. No person or persons shall have the right to introduce testimony of new evidence at a review of a tried case. All such evidence or testimony must be presented in new trials. The parties involved shall not be present at a review of an appeal, but may file a written brief in summation of trial material with the general secretary.

In case the Appeals Board shall rule a mistrial, it shall be the right of that body to which appeal has been made to nullify the decision of the court and to authorize a new trial. The Executive Presbytery shall outline proper procedure.

Section 14. Review by the General Presbytery

When exceptions are taken to the decision of the Appeals Board, either by the defendant or by the district presbytery, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery. This appeal shall be addressed to the office of the general secretary. Procedure in such cases shall conform to that in making appeal from a district credentials committee action or a jury trial, and must be made within 30 days following the notification of the decision of the Appeals Board.

Section 15. Reinstatement

a. A disciplined minister shall have the right to apply for reinstatement of his credentials, according to the provisions for such set forth in Article IX, A, Section 12. This provision shall apply to disciplinary action taken by either the General Council Credentials Committee or the General Presbytery, and also to action sustained by a trial.

b. A minister shall not be considered to have exhausted the avenues of remedy provided by the constitution and bylaws of this ecclesiastical body until application for reinstatement has been acted upon by both the district officary and the General Council Credentials Committee.

c. No publication of the action of the district shall be made until such time as action has been taken and authorization given by the General Council Credentials Committee.

ARTICLE X. SPIRITUAL LIFE—EVANGELISM

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

There shall be a Spiritual Life—Evangelism planning and coordinating office to assist the general superintendent in implementing the threefold mission of the church. Divisions and departments shall cooperate in this priority effort.

Section 2. Organizations

a. **Coordinator.** This office shall be under the direction of the general superintendent and amenable to the Executive Presbytery. A Spiritual Life—Evangelism coordinator shall be nominated by the general superintendent and appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. **Committee on Mission.** There shall be a Committee on Mission to assist in promoting and coordinating efforts to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

(1) *Function.* The committee shall offer advice, indicate ways in which divisional and departmental resources can be used in fulfilling the mission of the church, and communicate to divisions and departments the emphasis which it or the general superintendent places upon each phase of the threefold mission.

(2) *Composition.* The Committee on Mission shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall consist of the Board of Administration and representatives from the various headquarters ministries. The gen-

eral superintendent shall serve as chairman of the Committee on Mission. The Spiritual Life–Evangelism coordinator shall serve as secretary.

(3) *Subcommittees.* Subcommittees of the Committee on Mission shall include the Mobilization and Placement Service Committee, the Evangelism Literature for America Committee, and such other committees as may be required to give full emphasis to the mission of the church. They shall be appointed by the Board of Administration.

Section 3. Functions

a. The Spiritual Life–Evangelism office shall serve as an agency to provide leadership and to coordinate efforts through all divisions and departments.

b. Specific functions shall include:

- (1) Providing leadership in coordination of efforts to fulfill the three-fold mission of the church.
- (2) Planning and promoting special evangelistic and spiritual life emphases.
- (3) Developing and implementing the Mobilization and Placement Service.
- (4) Developing and implementing the Evangelism Literature for America program.
- (5) Serving the Evangelists Fellowship.

ARTICLE XI. NATIONAL DIRECTORS

Section 1. Purpose and Scope

National directors shall be selected to serve as the heads of the various divisions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God as need may require. They shall be responsible to the Executive Presbytery and supervised by the general superintendent within guidelines set forth by the policy-making bodies.

Section 2. Selection

- a. The Executive Presbytery shall make a careful survey of the Movement for potential candidates when seeking to fill national director positions.
- b. The national directors shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. Their terms of office shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.
- c. All national directors shall be members of the Assemblies of God.
- d. The Executive Presbytery shall determine the salaries of the national directors.

Section 3. Duties

The duties of a national director shall include the following:

- a. He shall be charged with the operational function of the division in accordance with the job description provided by the Executive Presbytery.

b. He shall have the prerogative of presenting the programs and budgets of the division in person to the Executive Presbytery for approval.

c. He shall coordinate the various functions of the departments in such a manner as to provide needed services and ministries for the constituency with efficiency and economy.

ARTICLE XII. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

a. *Sphere of authority.* There shall be a Division of Christian Education which shall have general oversight over the Church School Literature Department and the Education Department.

b. *Purpose.* The purpose of the division is to correlate the emphases on curriculum development and training of church leaders.

c. *National director.* The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Division of Christian Education.

d. *Amenability.* The division and all of its departments shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

Section 1. Church School Literature Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) There shall be a Church School Literature Department which shall be charged with the responsibility of the preparation of all curricular materials for church schools.

(2) The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Editor.* There shall be an editor of church school literature who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Christian Education in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Responsibility of Executive Presbytery.* The Executive Presbytery shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial and curricular content of all publications and periodicals within the guidelines set by the policy-making bodies.

(3) *Approval for budget changes.* New materials or changes in style or format which affect the budget of the Gospel Publishing House must have the approval of the Board of Publication before being initiated.

Section 2. Education Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Responsibility.* There shall be an Education Department which shall be generally responsible for supervising and promoting those education activities of the Assemblies of God which do not usually occur as part of the congregational life of the local church or which have not

been constitutionally assigned to other departments of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Such promotion and supervision shall not infringe upon the sovereignty of the various districts and churches. This responsibility shall include nursery schools, kindergartens, grade schools, high schools, junior colleges, senior colleges, Bible institutes, Bible colleges, graduate schools, correspondence schools, and general ministerial and missionary training.

(2) *Purpose.* The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the division.

(2) *Board of Education.* There shall be a Board of Education which shall consist of 18 members to be constituted as follows: The national director of the Division of Christian Education, an executive presbyter, one pastor or district officer not associated with the internal administration of an Assemblies of God college from each of the eight geographical areas of the United States, two laymen, and six presidents of endorsed institutions of higher learning.

(a) *Selection of board.* The national director shall serve as chairman of the Board of Education by virtue of office; the executive presbyter shall be selected by the Executive Presbytery; the eight regional members shall be elected by the general presbyters of the respective areas at called meetings during the annual meeting of the General Presbytery; two laymen shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery; and six presidents shall be appointed to the board by the Executive Presbytery on a rotating basis. One year shall lapse after a term is completed before a president is returned to the board.

(b) *Terms of office.* The members of the Board of Education will serve for terms of 3 years or until their successors are elected. These terms shall be arranged so that the term of only one member from each area will expire annually.

(c) *Authority and amenability.* The government and work of the Education Department shall be vested in and committed to the Board of Education. It shall conduct its own meetings as occasion may require. The leaders of the schools may be invited to the meetings of the Board of Education with the privilege of the floor even though they may not have the privilege of voting. The board shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. Duties and functions

It shall be the responsibility of the Education Department to seek to maintain a high level of spirituality in all our schools and to guard against any departure from the doctrines and spiritual experiences set forth in our Statement of Fundamental Truths. This department shall also encourage educational and administrative efficiency in the various schools.

It shall also be charged with the responsibility of stimulating and encouraging interest in Christian education and of promoting enrollment at the various Assemblies of God schools. It shall likewise effect a program for securing funds from foundations and other sources and from the denomination as a whole on behalf of our educational program.

It shall be the duty of the Education Department to conduct a continuous study of the educational institutions and services of the Assemblies of God with the view to their increasing effectiveness. It shall seek to correlate all educational efforts into a unified program. To this end, it shall have the following specific rights and functions:

(1) *New schools.* It may offer guidance and counsel in the opening of new schools, academic and theological, and may take the initiative in the establishing of such schools.

(2) *Expansion of school services.* It may recommend the broadening of the scope of individual school services.

(3) *Standard for endorsement.* It may erect standards to which all schools of the Assemblies of God shall be required to conform in order to receive endorsement. These standards may include the qualifications of the faculty and staff; the required subjects of the curriculum; the length of class periods, semesters, and terms; the requirements for admission and for graduation; and the general regulations of school life.

(4) *General service to all schools.* The Education Department shall serve the various schools of the Assemblies of God as a faculty placement bureau. It may supply to school staffs and faculties ideas and suggestions for more efficient operation and may publish an interschool periodical to this end. It may publish an educational directory. It may also promote and conduct faculty seminars.

d. Rights and prerogatives

(1) *Certificates of endorsement.* The Education Department shall issue certificates of endorsement to postsecondary schools meeting the standards for endorsement established by the Board of Education. Such certificates shall be authorized by the Board of Education after careful evaluation of said schools, with special consideration given to the responsiveness to the church's mission, and shall be valid for 1 to 5 years, at the discretion of the Board of Education. No postsecondary school operated by or patronized by members of the Assemblies of God shall be recognized as approved unless or until it conforms to the standards

established by the Board of Education and has been officially approved by the Board.

(2) *Supervision of funds.* It shall be the prerogative of the Education Department to disburse and apportion whatever funds shall come into its possession to the various educational institutions of the Assemblies of God in that way which it shall consider equitable and right.

(3) *Equality of endorsed schools.* In the discharge of its duties and functions and the exercise of its rights and prerogatives, the Education Department shall consider all endorsed Assemblies of God schools as upon an equal basis, regardless of origin, ownership, or control. All schools which are approved and endorsed by the Education Department shall enjoy equal rights of publicity and emphasis in Assemblies of God publications and in the promotional work of the Education Department.

(4) *Textbooks.* It shall also be the prerogative of the Education Department to seek to provide our own textbooks for our Bible schools.

(5) *Correspondence courses, institutes, and seminars.* It shall be the prerogative of the Education Department to prepare reading and correspondence courses and to promote short, intensive ministers institutes and seminars for the development of the ministries of those who have been unable to attend our Bible schools and for the ministers of the Assemblies of God in general.

ARTICLE XIII. DIVISION OF CHURCH MINISTRIES

a. *Sphere of authority.* There shall be a Division of Church Ministries which shall have general oversight over the following departments: Men's Ministries, Music, Sunday School, Women's Ministries, and Youth.

b. *Purpose.* The purpose of the division is to coordinate and correlate local church programs on the national level.

c. *National director.* The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Division of Church Ministries.

d. *Amenability.* The division and all of its departments shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

Section 1. Men's Ministries Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* There shall be a Men's Ministries Department which shall have as its primary responsibility in its field of activity to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

(2) *Functions.* The functions of this department shall include:

(a) Encouraging development of the work of the men at the local, district, and national levels of the constituency.

(b) Promoting the participation of men in the ministries of the local church.

(c) Developing the interest of men in supporting all programs of the Assemblies of God.

(d) Coordinating the efforts of the men in local and district organizations within the Assemblies of God.

(e) Encouraging and teaching men to engage in personal witnessing for Christ.

(f) Organizing and promoting a program for boys.

(g) Participating in sponsoring world missions evangelistic literature crusades and such other programs as may be approved in the future.

(h) Preparing and publishing handbooks, manuals, and such literature as may be needed to further the fulfilling of the mission of the church by the men of the Assemblies of God.

(i) Publishing the work of the Assemblies of God men.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the division.

(2) *National Men's Ministries Committee.* There shall be a national Men's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, the commander of the Royal Rangers, the secretary of the Light-for-the-Lost, and four representatives—a district men's director and one from each of the ministries within the department. They shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

Section 2. Music Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Functions.* There shall be a Music Department which shall be responsible for the preparation of music publications and for the encouragement of the ministry of music in the local church. It shall provide music seminars as may be needed.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.

(2) *National Music Committee.* There shall be a national Music Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of

Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, and three others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

(3) *Approval for budget changes.* The preparation of new materials or changes in style and format which affect the budget of the Gospel Publishing House must have the approval of the Board of Publication before being initiated.

Section 3. Sunday School Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Responsibilities.* There shall be a Sunday School Department which shall have the responsibility of encouraging and promoting the development of Sunday schools and other church schools of a nonacademic nature throughout the Fellowship.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

(3) *Functions.* The purpose of the Sunday School Department shall be:

- (a) To assist district and local Sunday school organizations in setting up effective programs.
- (b) To promote and conduct Sunday school conventions on a national and regional basis.
- (c) To encourage and conduct training programs for teachers and workers.
- (d) To produce manuals, handbooks, brochures, and literature of a promotional nature.
- (e) To assist in the organization and development of vacation Bible schools and other educational activities of the local church.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.

(2) *National Sunday School Committee.* There shall be a national Sunday School Department Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, and three others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

c. *Official publication.* The Sunday School Counselor shall be recognized as the official publication of the Sunday School Department.

d. District organization(s)

(1) Provision shall be made for a district Sunday school department in each district of the Assemblies of God. The purpose shall be:

- (a) To coordinate national, district, sectional, and local efforts for Sunday school efficiency, growth, and development.
- (b) To encourage every Sunday school in the district to establish written operational policies based on Directions—For the Decade of Harvest.
- (c) To promote Sunday school efficiency through seminars, tours, conventions, or by any other acceptable means.
- (2) There may be a district Sunday school director. He shall be chosen in keeping with the district constitution and bylaws.
- (3) There may be a district constitution and bylaws which shall be presented to the district council for approval.
- (4) Time may be given throughout the year for the advancement of all phases of the district and national Sunday school calendar.

Section 4. Women's Ministries Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* There shall be a Women's Ministries Department which shall have as its primary responsibility in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

(2) *Functions.* The functions of this department shall include:

- (a) Encouraging development of the work of women at the local, district, and national levels of the Fellowship.
- (b) Correlating the work of the women with the needs represented by foreign missions, home missions, and benevolences in such a way that the needs may be met quickly and equitably, with each district and local group carrying its proportionate share of service.
- (c) Encouraging district and local groups to view their service as a spiritual ministry and stewardship in which faithfulness is important.
- (d) Encouraging the women of the Fellowship to engage in the ministry of personal witnessing and the ministry of intercessory prayer.
- (e) Offering encouragement and assistance to district leaders and local groups for organization and operation.
- (f) Conducting conventions, seminars, and rallies concerning Women's Ministries and its program.
- (g) Organizing and promoting a program for girls.
- (h) Preparing and publishing handbooks and manuals and issuing such bulletins as may be needed to implement the department program.
- (i) Publicizing the Women's Ministries through the media of the Pentecostal Evangel and other periodicals as opportunity affords.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.

(2) *National Women's Ministries Committee.* There shall be a national Women's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries and the secretary of the department by virtue of office; two other persons from within the department recommended by the department secretary to represent Women's Ministries and its auxiliaries; and four representatives from the field who represent the areas of Women's Ministries, all of whom shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, to serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

c. Funds

(1) *National Women's Ministries Day offerings.* An annual National Women's Ministries Day shall be observed at which time the ministry of the department shall be promoted. It is recommended that an offering be received in each church which shall be sent to the national Women's Ministries Department for use in support of the national office and to aid in costs of services it offers to district and local units.

(2) *Tithing of income to district and national offices.* To aid further in support of the work at both district and national levels, it is urged that each local Women's Ministries group shall be faithful in tithing its income into the district Women's Ministries office and the district Women's Ministries office in turn to tithe to the national office.

Section 5. Youth Department**a. Authorization and purpose**

(1) *Responsibilities.* There shall be a Youth Department which shall be responsible for the youth work known as Christ's Ambassadors. The department may be responsible for other related youth programs which shall be deemed feasible and desirable.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission: evangelization of the world, worshipping God, and building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son. In part, it shall fulfill this responsibility by planning and promoting a spiritual program directed toward the youth of the Assemblies of God, encouraging the youth to assist in fulfilling the threefold mission of the church.

(3) *Functions.* The functions of this department shall include:

(a) Encouraging and assisting the developing of district young people's programs.

(b) Coordinating the development and promotion of projects of national scope.

(c) Producing literature and helps to meet the needs of youth.

(d) Promoting spiritual programs adaptable to the particular problems of young people in high schools and colleges.

(e) Developing and promoting guidelines for use at the district and local level.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.

(2) *National Youth Committee.* There shall be a national Youth Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, with three others from the field at large, appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

c. District Christ's Ambassadors organizations

(1) Groups of local organizations may be formed into district organizations, with the approval of the officary of the district councils involved. The district organizations shall be governed by the principles of cooperative fellowship and shall be considered as a branch or department of the district council. The district council officary shall be considered as the honorary membership of the district organization and shall be honored and respected in all matters affecting the activities of the organization. The district organization shall have the right to elect its own officers, when deemed advisable by the district presbytery, and to supervise its own activities within the boundaries of the territory involved. The superintendent of the district council shall be an ex officio member of all district committees.

(2) The manner of election of the district CA president will be according to the provisions of the district constitution and bylaws. He shall be an ordained minister. It is recommended that he will be under the age of 35 at the time of his first election, but may be retained as long as his service is desired.

(3) A constitution and bylaws covering the activities of the district organization shall be submitted to and approved by the district presbytery.

(4) The president of the district organization shall be subject to call by the district presbytery for consultation in matters pertaining to young people.

(5) Sectional meetings of the district organization shall be strictly spiritual in character and arranged through the cooperation of the pastors

and young people's leaders in each section, taking care not to conflict with other local or district meetings.

d. Local Christ's Ambassadors organizations

(1) All local Christ's Ambassadors organizations shall be considered as a branch of the local church work, to be under the general supervision of the pastor, whose counsel, advice, and direction shall be respected in all activities which affect the relationship of the organization to the church and its activities in service.

(2) The members of this group shall be born-again young people living consistent Christian lives.

(3) The local young people may elect their own officers, subject to the approval of the pastor and the church board, and may conduct their own services provided such services do not conflict with nor detract from the regular services of the church.

(4) The pastor shall be considered as an honorary member of the organization and an ex officio member of all its committees, and should be respected and honored as a shepherd and guide in all matters of service and fellowship.

e. Speed-the-Light offerings. (See Article XXII. World Missions Plan, Section 2.)

ARTICLE XIV. DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS

a. Sphere of authority. There shall be a Division of Communications which shall have general oversight over the following areas: Auxiliary Communication, the Office of Information, the Pentecostal Evangel, Radio and Television, and Audiovisual Services.

b. Agency to fulfill church's mission. The primary responsibility of this division, and the departments in its field of activity, shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

c. Purpose. The purpose of the division shall be to correlate information from general headquarters, both through our periodicals and in the effective use of available communication facilities, such as, radio, television, audiovisual, and recording devices.

d. National director. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Division of Communications.

e. Amenability. The division and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

Section 1. Auxiliary Communications

a. Promotional periodicals. In order to strengthen the flow of information to all segments of the Fellowship in the most economical and efficient manner, all periodicals of a promotional nature other than those

produced at divisional or departmental levels shall be under the general supervision of the Division of Communications.

b. Editors. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to employ editors as may be needed.

Section 2. Office of Information

a. Disseminator of news. There shall be an Office of Information which shall serve as an agency in the dissemination of news about the Assemblies of God to the Fellowship and the general public. This shall include releases to district bulletins, religious magazines, news syndicates, and radio and television stations.

b. Host to visitors. The office shall provide services as needed in hosting visitors to general headquarters.

c. Secretary of information. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a secretary of information who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Communications.

Section 3. The Pentecostal Evangel

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Official organ.* The Pentecostal Evangel shall be the official organ of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(2) *Purpose.* The Pentecostal Evangel shall be published;

(a) To fulfill the threefold mission of the church;

(b) To propagate the gospel of Jesus Christ;

(c) To give proper emphasis to Pentecostal distinctives, including the baptism in the Holy Spirit and its desired effects in the lives of believers; and

(d) To strengthen the Fellowship.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Editor.* There shall be an editor of the Pentecostal Evangel who shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Amenability.* The Executive Presbytery shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial content of the Pentecostal Evangel within the guidelines set by the policy-making bodies.

(3) *Approval for budget changes.* It is understood that changes in style and format affecting the budget of the Gospel Publishing House shall not be initiated without the approval of the Board of Publication.

Section 4. Radio and Television Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* There shall be a Radio and Television Department whose primary responsibility in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

(2) *National broadcast.* It shall prepare a national broadcast and shall

solicit the highest possible quality in musical presentation and shall feature capable speakers who shall offer messages in keeping with the Statement of Faith of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(3) *Program policies.* Programs shall originate from such sources, and be released through such outlets, and feature such talents as shall meet the requirements of the department.

(4) *Transcription library.* A transcription library shall be provided for our ministers to draw upon for use in preparation of local broadcasts as may be desired. Complete transcriptions shall also be prepared for optional use of ministers and churches. Such transcriptions shall allow time for local announcements. An appropriate series of transcriptions offering a distinctive presentation of our Statement of Faith shall be prepared for use in extended home missions work.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Communications.

(2) *Radio and Television Committee.* There shall be a Radio and Television Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Communications, the secretary of the Radio and Television Department and three others elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery. Committee members shall serve a 2-year period or until their successors are appointed.

c. *Funds.* The national director shall be authorized to employ such means for the raising of funds as shall be deemed advisable by the Radio and Television Committee.

Section 5. Audiovisual Services

a. Authorization and purpose. Audiovisual Services shall:

(1) Acquire and maintain such equipment as necessary to produce audiovisual materials.

(2) Assist departments in the preparation of audiovisual materials.

(3) Provide consultation to departments, missionaries, church officials, and others on production of audiovisual materials.

(4) Build and maintain a rental library of films, filmstrips, slides, video tapes, tape and/or phonograph recordings, which shall be available to our constituency.

(5) Produce a catalog of rental films—those produced by the Assemblies of God and other filmmakers.

(6) Make available additional services as authorized by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Audiovisual representative.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint an audiovisual representative who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Communications.

(2) *Audiovisual Film Committee.* There shall be an Audiovisual Film Committee which shall recommend films to be included in the library and classification of films and/or recordings. The committee shall consist of the national director of the Division of Communications, the audiovisual representative, and three others appointed by the Executive Presbytery. Committee members shall serve a 2-year period or until their successors are appointed.

ARTICLE XV. DIVISION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

a. Sphere of authority. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall assume responsibility and do all within its power for the spread of the gospel in foreign lands. In keeping with this objective, there shall be a Division of Foreign Missions to which shall be committed all the foreign missions interests of the Fellowship.

b. Agency to fulfill church's mission. The primary responsibility of this division in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

c. Strategy. The missions strategy of the division shall be:

(1) The widest possible evangelization of the spiritually lost through every available means.

(2) The establishment of indigenous churches after the New Testament pattern.

(3) The training of national believers to proclaim the gospel to their own people in an expanding mission to other people.

(4) The showing of compassion for suffering people in a manner representing the love of Jesus Christ.

d. Indigenous principle. The Pauline example shall be followed as far as possible by seeking out neglected regions where the gospel has not been preached and by establishing self-supporting, self-governing, self-propagating national churches in all regions.

Section 2. Government and Organization

a. Executive director. There shall be an executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions who shall be elected in the manner described in Article II, Section 2, paragraph c, of the bylaws.

b. Administrative assistant. The Executive Presbytery shall elect an administrative assistant who shall serve under the executive director in the administration of the division.

c. Amenability. The division and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

d. Foreign Missions Board

(1) *Composition.* The activities of the Division of Foreign Missions

shall be under the supervision of the Foreign Missions Board which shall consist of the executive director of the division, two executive presbyters, the administrative assistant, four field directors, and eight pastors of proven foreign missions zeal and accomplishments. The pastors shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery from the eight established geographical areas of the United States and ratified by the General Presbytery.

(2) *Terms of office.* The term of office of the appointed pastors shall be for 3 years, rotated so three will be appointed annually for each of two terms and two will be appointed in the year of the additional term. Upon completion of a term they shall not succeed themselves in office.

(3) *Authority and amenability.* The responsibilities of the Foreign Missions Board shall be to establish and evaluate policies, to offer guidance and counsel in the areas of its supervision, to establish standards for appointed foreign missionaries and foreign missions institutions, and to examine and approve candidates for foreign missions appointment. The decisions of the board shall be subject to review by the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

(4) *Board of Appeals.* Those members of the Foreign Missions Board who are not members of the Foreign Missions Committee shall sit as a Board of Appeals to act upon any appeal from decisions of the division. In such an appeal, members of the Foreign Missions Committee may present the case for the Division of Foreign Mission's decision to the Board of Appeals, but shall not be present at the time of deliberation or voting. The missionary or Foreign Missions Committee may appeal to the Executive Presbytery or General Presbytery from the decision of the Board of Appeals.

e. *Laymen's Advisory Council.* An advisory council consisting of eight consecrated Spirit-filled laymen from among our Fellowship, known for their spirituality, good judgment, and faithfulness, shall be appointed by the General Presbytery. They shall work in cooperation with the Foreign Missions Board in the promotion of world missions. They shall be selected from the eight areas of the nation and shall meet with the Foreign Missions Board at least once annually or as often as deemed necessary by the executive director of the division.

They shall be chosen from churches other than those whose pastors will be serving on the Foreign Missions Board at the same time. They shall have the endorsement of their respective pastors. Their terms of office shall be for 3 years, rotated so three will be elected annually for each of two terms and two will be elected in the year of the additional term. Upon completion of a term they shall not succeed themselves in office.

f. *Field directors.* There shall be four field directors who shall direct the missions activities in their assigned geographical areas. They shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery on the basis of nominations by the

missionaries in the respective areas, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

g. *Foreign Missions Committee.* The general administrative work of the division shall be conducted by a Foreign Missions Committee consisting of the executive director as chairman, the administrative assistant as vice-chairman, the field directors, the heads of major departments of the division, and other personnel as determined by the Executive Presbytery. The responsibilities of this committee shall be the general supervision and direction of the work of the division and its missionaries in conformity with the established policies and principles of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and the Foreign Missions Board.

h. *General Presbytery representatives.* Each field fellowship shall be represented on the General Presbytery by its field director and two others. (See Article II, Section 2, d, (2).)

i. *Foreign missions policies.* All appointed foreign missionaries shall be required to work in accord with the published policies of the division as authorized by the Foreign Missions Board.

Section 3. Personnel Department

a. *Department secretary.* There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. *Function.* The Personnel Department shall serve as the primary source for missionary personnel data and shall be responsible for:

- (1) Recruiting and processing prospective missionary candidates, both career and short-term.
- (2) Physical and mental health care of the missionaries and their dependents.
- (3) Family and children's programs.
- (4) Supervision of continuing education programs for missionary personnel.
- (5) Coordination of the missionary-in-residence program of Assemblies of God colleges.
- (6) Other duties as may be assigned by the executive director of the division or the Foreign Missions Board.

Section 4. Promotions Department

a. *Department secretary.* There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. *Function.* The Promotions Department shall manage the United States relationships of the Division of Foreign Missions. Its responsibilities shall be to:

- (1) Create, direct, and evaluate all promotional and fundraising strategies.
- (2) Coordinate public, district, church, institutional, and parachurch relations.
- (3) Provide for deputational ministries and editorial services.
- (4) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director of the division or the Foreign Missions Board.

Section 5. Finance Department

a. **Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. **Function.** The Finance Department shall serve the missionary family and the division's administrative function in all matters related to financial processing and accountability. Its responsibilities shall be to:

- (1) Execute and administrate the plans and policies set forth by the Foreign Missions Board with regard to missions finances.
- (2) Provide contact with outside agencies, associated departments, service departments, and districts with regard to the division's finances.
- (3) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director of the division or the Foreign Missions Board.

Section 6. Support of Division of Foreign Missions

The Administrative and Emergency Fund of the Division of Foreign Missions shall be provided from:

- a. The assigned percentage of World Missions Plan Offerings. (See Article XXII. World Missions Plan.)
- b. Offerings designated for office expense, in keeping with the recommendation that any who do not contribute under the World Missions Plan should designate a portion of their offering for office expense.
- c. A recommended one-half of the tithes of missionaries under appointment receiving funds through the division.
- d. All undesignated funds.
- e. Five percent of all missionary offerings (with the exclusion of special designations) received directly by the division shall be transferred to the Administrative and Emergency Fund to meet the administrative and emergency expenses for which the Division of Foreign Missions is responsible.

Section 7. Missionary Candidates

a. **Appointment.** The selection and appointment of missionaries shall be the prerogative of the Foreign Missions Board on recommendation of the Foreign Missions Committee.

b. **Examination criteria.** The Foreign Missions Board shall be governed in its selection and appointment of missionaries by examining each applicant as to:

- (1) Personal experience of full New Testament salvation.
- (2) Definite experience of the baptism in the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4.
- (3) Definite call to foreign work.
- (4) Physical, mental, and spiritual fitness to work.
- (5) Christian standing and general qualifications. It is required that each applicant receiving appointment shall have the unqualified endorsement of his/her district council, particularly in regard to effective ministry and Christian character. Applicants shall not be granted general missionary appointment until they have first qualified for ordination by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Candidates shall prove their ministry and stability of character by a qualifying period of service in the United States.

c. **Specialized service.** Candidates for foreign service of a specialized character such as nurses, teachers, et cetera, may be granted appointment for such types of work, if properly qualified, without the necessity of being ordained. Nevertheless, such candidates shall have the endorsement of their respective district councils in regard to their Christian experience and local church activity.

Section 8. Support of Missionaries

a. **A faith mission.** The foreign missions program of the Assemblies of God is a faith mission. Missionaries are urged to place their faith in God for supplying their needs. Thus missionaries itinerate among the churches to solicit prayer and financial support.

b. **Church support.** Every local church shall be encouraged to assume responsibility for support of duly appointed missionaries and approved ministries in cooperation with the Division of Foreign Missions.

c. **Undesignated and general emergency funds.** Undesignated funds and general emergency funds may be used to meet the emergency needs of missionaries who raise their prescribed pledge and cash support and submit required financial reports to the division.

d. **District support.** It is recommended that districts endorsing candidates for missionary appointment assume responsibility for their support as far as practicable. (See Article XXII. World Missions Plan.)

Section 9. Ordination of Missionaries

The ordination of missionaries under appointment of the Division of Foreign Missions shall be determined on the basis of their qualifications for ordination rather than on the basis of their appointment.

Section 10. Field Organizations

a. **National church organization.** Missionaries shall make every effort to establish indigenous Assemblies of God national church organizations in the countries they serve. Organizational patterns shall conform to practical, cultural forms acceptable to the body of believers. Close fraternal

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relationships with Assemblies of God organizations in other countries shall be encouraged without infringement affecting the autonomy of each national organization.

b. Field fellowships. Missionary field fellowships, composed of all appointed missionaries and approved ministers abroad assigned permanently to a field of the Division of Foreign Missions, shall be formed in each political or geographical area as circumstances may indicate. These field fellowships are to be considered as the direct creation of and amenable to the Division of Foreign Missions since missionary appointment automatically confers membership in the field fellowship. The missionary field fellowships shall serve in a consultative capacity to the Division of Foreign Missions in matters of policy and missionary personnel relative to their respective fields. They shall strive to maintain harmonious relationships on the field and with the Division of Foreign Missions and with the national church.

In those fields where there are insufficient personnel to make the organization of a field fellowship practical, the Division of Foreign Missions may appoint a representative(s) to act for the field in matters normally handled by the field fellowship.

Section 11. Property

a. Investment principles. All possible precautions shall be taken to safeguard funds invested in foreign properties so that they shall continue to advance the cause of the Assemblies of God in those countries. No funds shall be made available for the purchase of property until arrangements have been made to comply with the laws of the respective countries concerning the legal holding of the title, and in order to maintain a proper relationship between these missions projects and the Division of Foreign Missions, these principles shall be followed:

(1) *Title to missionary residences.* All missionary residences shall be held in the name of The General Council of the Assemblies of God wherever legally possible.

(2) *Title to institutional properties*

(a) *General policy.* It shall be a general policy to hold institutional properties in the name of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(b) *Exceptions.* The Division of Foreign Missions shall be authorized to transfer title to the local national Assemblies of God organization when it deems such action to be in the best interests of the work. Church buildings or pastors' residences which are procured solely for the benefit of the local church with either local or foreign funds shall be held in the name of its national Assemblies of God organization or by a local church which is fully established and competent to hold property in its own name.

(3) *Title policy on General Council loans.* In all cases where the

Division of Foreign Missions has advanced funds on a loan basis, The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall hold title to the property or receive other adequate security until the loan is fully paid.

b. Field fellowship project endorsement. Missionaries contemplating the purchase of property or erection of buildings shall cooperate with the missionary fellowship on the field and must secure its endorsement before requesting the approval of the division.

c. Legal documents. A certified copy of the property deeds, titles, and other legal papers relating to all mission properties which have been purchased shall be forwarded to the Division of Foreign Missions for filing.

ARTICLE XVI. DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

a. Sphere of authority. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall assume responsibility and do all within its power for the spread of the gospel to the homeland. In keeping with this obligation, there shall be a Division of Home Missions.

b. Agency to fulfill church's mission. The primary responsibility of this division in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission, the essential function being the establishing of new churches through the auspices of the district councils.

c. Departments. The work of the division shall include five major departments:

- (1) New Church Evangelism Department
- (2) Intercultural Ministries Department
- (3) Chaplaincy Department
- (4) College Ministries Department
- (5) Teen Challenge Department

Section 2. Government and organization

a. National director. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the oversight of the Division of Home Missions.

b. Home Missions Board. The New Church Evangelism Department, the College Ministries Department, the Intercultural Ministries Department, and the Teen Challenge Department shall be under the supervision of a Home Missions Board. It shall consist of the national director, one member of the Board of Administration, two nonresident members of the Executive Presbytery, and eight other ministers selected from each of the eight established geographical areas of the Fellowship. Four of the national board members shall be selected from among those district officials who have assigned to them the portfolio of district home missions director.

(1) *Elections.* The members of the Home Missions Board shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

(2) *Term of office.* A term of office shall be for 2 years and so arranged that one-half of the terms expire annually.

(3) *Authority and amenability.* It shall be the responsibility of the Home Missions Board to evaluate policies, to offer guidance and counsel in the areas of its supervision, to establish standards for appointed home missionaries and home missions institutions, and to sit as a Board of Appeal in all matters relating to the field and division decisions in its area of supervision. It shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. *Commission on Chaplains.* The Chaplaincy Department shall be under the supervision of a Commission on Chaplains appointed by the Executive Presbytery according to the provisions set forth in Section 5 of this article.

d. *College Ministries Administrative Committee.* The College Ministries Administrative Committee membership shall include two representatives each from Spiritual Life–Evangelism, the Division of Home Missions, the Division of Foreign Missions, and the Division of Church Ministries. The two representatives from the Division of Home Missions shall include the national director of the Division of Home Missions and the secretary of the College Ministries Department. The committee shall be chaired by the Spiritual Life–Evangelism Coordinator.

e. *Teen Challenge Board.* The Teen Challenge Board shall consist of 18 members, 12 of whom shall be Spirit-filled members of the Assemblies of God, and six of whom shall be proven ministers or laymen from other evangelical groups. Its membership shall consist of the national director of the Division of Home Missions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, serving as president of the corporation and chairman of the board, the secretary of the Teen Challenge directors, all of whom will serve by virtue of office.

f. *Home Missions Committee.* The general administrative work of the division shall be conducted by a Home Missions Committee consisting of the national director as chairman and four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

g. *Advisory Committee.* The department secretaries of the Division of Home Missions together with the national director shall constitute an Advisory Committee.

h. *Special committees.* Other special committees may be appointed at the discretion of the Executive Presbytery.

i. *National representatives.* National representatives to serve in specific areas of home missions work may be appointed by the Executive Presbytery as it becomes advisable and practical.

j. *Functions.* The Division of Home Missions shall provide coordina-

tion, promotion, assistance to motivate action, and the receiving and disbursing of funds.

k. *Liaison with districts.* The division and its departments shall maintain a constant liaison with the various districts so that proven programs and innovations in each area may be refined and offered to other districts. However, the supervision and administration of the work of the various ministries shall be committed to the districts where they are located.

Section 3. New Church Evangelism Department

a. *Department secretary.* There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. *Function.* The primary function of this department shall be the establishing of new churches in cooperation with the various district councils. Practical assistance shall be provided by:

(1) Developing and promoting a fund from which grants may be provided to the various districts for establishing new churches.

(2) Developing a program to assist in financing the founding and establishing of new churches.

(3) Seeking to acquire information regarding various methods of financing and make this information available to various districts.

(4) Providing information of available materials such as evangelism literature, Sunday school materials, and other helps for the new church and supply these as funds permit.

(5) Providing promotional materials for districts, colleges, and local churches to impart vision and motivation for the planting and establishing of new churches.

(6) Assisting in the further development of programs for the involvement of students and faculty members from the Assemblies of God colleges in New Church Evangelism.

(7) Assisting in the development of curriculum materials related to New Church Evangelism for Assemblies of God colleges.

(8) Utilizing the personnel resources of our Fellowship in conjunction with MAPS (Mobilization and Placement Service) to assist in New Church Evangelism.

Section 4. Intercultural Ministries Department

a. *Department secretary.* There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. *Function.* The Intercultural Ministries Department shall provide ministry among those groups of people in the United States whose evangelization involves specialized understanding and preparation. These groups

are those having cultural, ethnic, or language distinctiveness; those constituting specialized communications groups such as the deaf and the blind; and those otherwise forming distinguishable groups.

c. **Cooperation with districts.** The Intercultural Ministries Department shall function in cooperation with the various districts as set forth in Section 2, paragraphs i and j.

d. **Representative to deaf and blind.** Ministries to the deaf and blind shall be under the direction of a national representative. His duties shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 2, paragraphs i and j.

e. **National home missionaries.** National home missionaries shall be appointed by the Home Missions Board with the approval of their home districts and the districts in which the missionaries will be working. All missionary appointments and renewals thereof shall be made according to administrative criteria established by the Division of Home Missions.

f. **Home missions policies.** All appointed home missionaries shall be expected to work in accord with the policies of the division as set forth in the Home Missions Manual.

Section 5. Chaplaincy Department

a. **Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Commission on Chaplains

(1) **Composition.** The Commission on Chaplains shall consist of the national director of the Division of Home Missions, a representative of the Military Chaplaincy, and a representative of the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy, one of whom shall be the secretary of the Chaplaincy Department, and eight others. They shall consist of two executive presbyters, two active-duty military chaplains, two institutional chaplains (one prison chaplain and one hospital chaplain), and two members at large. The commission shall serve as the endorsing agency for The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Members of the commission and its chairman shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) **Term of office.** A term of office shall be for 2 years and so arranged that one-half of the terms expire annually.

(3) **Authority and amenability.** The government and work of the Chaplaincy Department shall be vested in and committed to the Commission on Chaplains. The commission shall operate within guidelines adopted by the Executive Presbytery. It shall have the responsibility to evaluate policies, to offer guidance and counsel in the area of its supervision, to establish criteria for the appointment of workers in the Military, Industrial, and Institutional Chaplaincies, and to sit as a Board

of Appeal in all matters relating to its area of supervision. It shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy

(1) **National representative.** There shall be a national representative for the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy (except Veteran's Affairs Hospital Chaplaincy).

(2) **Functions.** The basic functions of this area shall include:

(a) Processing applications of candidates for the Industrial or Institutional Chaplaincy for submission to the Commission on Chaplains for its official endorsement.

(b) Providing supportive ministry for full-time and part-time chaplains.

(c) Supplying Bibles, training courses, and other literature for individuals in industry and institutions.

(d) Working among or directing ministry to individuals and their families in industry and institutions, known as Industrial and Institutional Ministries.

(e) Appointing contact pastors for the major correctional, mental health, and medical health facilities in the United States.

(f) Seeking ministry opportunities for chaplains and encouraging them therein.

(g) Receiving offerings designated for this ministry and support from its various chaplains.

(h) Assisting the districts and local churches in ministry within industrial and institutional settings.

d. Military Chaplaincy

(1) **National representative.** There shall be a national representative for the Military Chaplaincy.

(2) **Functions.** The basic functions of this area shall include:

(a) Processing applications of candidates for the Military Chaplaincy for submission to the Commission on Chaplains for it to extend ecclesiastical approval and endorsement.

(b) Working among service personnel, known as Military Personnel Ministries, with the understanding that there shall be a proper liaison between the Military Personnel Ministries work and that which is related to the service personnel's ministry overseas under the auspices of the Division of Foreign Missions.

(c) Appointing contact pastors for each of the active military bases in the United States.

(d) Working among veterans, particularly those confined to hospitals.

(e) Seeking opportunities for ministry for chaplains and encouraging them therein.

(f) Receiving offerings designated for these ministries and support from its various chaplains.

(g) Serving as the certifying and approving authority for those applying to the military as directors of Religious Education.

Section 6. College Ministries Department

a. **Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. **Function.** The College Ministries Department shall direct ministry to the collegiate population of our society (including international students) through the establishment of an evangelizing, reproducing community of believers where students congregate, study, and live. The department provides training for staff and students to be equipped for ministry within campus communities across America.

c. College Ministries Administrative Committee

(1) **Composition.** The College Ministries Administrative Committee membership shall include two representatives each from Spiritual Life-Evangelism, the Division of Home Missions, the Division of Foreign Missions, and the Division of Church Ministries. The two representatives from the Division of Home Missions shall include the national director of the Division of Home Missions and the secretary of the College Ministries Department. The committee shall be chaired by the Spiritual Life-Evangelism Coordinator.

(2) **Function.** The College Ministries Administrative Committee shall provide coordination and resource oversight to the College Ministries Department. Policy or major programming changes in items that have direct implication for other divisions shall be brought before the College Ministries Administrative Committee by the department secretary, with the approval of the national director of the Division of Home Missions.

(3) **Relationships.** The College Ministries Administrative Committee shall be a subcommittee of the Committee on Mission. The secretary of the College Ministries Department shall be a member of the Committee on Mission.

Section 7 Teen Challenge Department

a. **Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. **Function.** The Teen Challenge Department shall assist the local centers through the networking of information national curriculum, available workers, fundraising, and public relations. Further, the Teen Challenge Department will oversee the national certification of every local center. Teen Challenge endeavors to help people become mentally sound,

emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well, and spiritually alive.

Section 8. Support

Financial assistance in meeting the operating expense of the Division of Home Missions shall be provided from:

a. The assigned percentage of World Missions Plan offerings. (See Article XXII. World Missions Plan).

b. Offerings designated for office expense. Churches which do not contribute under the World Missions Plan should designate a portion of their offering for home missions office expense.

c. Five percent of all funds contributed through the national Division of Home Missions for nationally appointed and/or approved home missions workers.

d. An appropriation of 10 percent of undesignated contributions.

e. Five percent of all funds for approved district, regional, or national home missions projects.

f. All endorsed and/or approved Assemblies of God chaplains actively serving full- or part-time, reserve chaplains, chaplain trainees, military trainees, and military seminarians shall contribute one-half of their tithe from their income earned from chaplaincy services to the Chaplaincy Department. Industrial and institutional chaplains' contributions shall be placed in the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy Fund, and the Military Chaplaincy contributions shall be placed in the Military Chaplaincy Fund.

g. College Ministries Department

(1) All Chi Alpha campus ministers shall contribute one-half of their tithes to the national College Ministries Department.

(2) All International Student Ministry missionaries and recognized international student ministry campus and church staff shall contribute one-half of their tithes to the national College Ministries Department.

(3) All Chi Alpha chapters (groups) and International Student Ministry works (programs) shall contribute 5 percent of their budget to the national College Ministries Department.

h. One-half of the tithes of all nationally appointed home missionaries.

i. Teen Challenge Department

(1) All Teen Challenge Centers should contribute a minimum of \$50 monthly to assist in supporting the national Teen Challenge Department.

(2) All Teen Challenge center ministers who are appointed Home Missionaries shall contribute one-half of their tithes to assist in supporting the national Teen Challenge Department.

ARTICLE XVII. DIVISION OF PUBLICATION

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

a. **Responsibilities.** There shall be a Division of Publication which shall

serve the Fellowship and to which shall be committed the management and operation of the Gospel Publishing House. The responsibilities of the Gospel Publishing House shall include the publication and distribution of the *Pentecostal Evangel*, curricular material and other literature for church schools, and such other periodicals and publications as may be authorized by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Agency to fulfill church's mission. The primary responsibility of this division in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

Section 2. Government and Organization

a. National director. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

b. Departments. The division shall consist of the Marketing and Distribution Department and the Production Department, each of which shall be supervised by a manager selected by the Executive Presbytery.

c. Board of Publication. There shall be a Board of Publication which shall have the general oversight over the publishing interests of the General Council. It shall be concerned with the cost and earning factors of all areas affecting publications and shall exercise discretionary powers in the budgetary affairs of the Division of Publication. The Board of Publication shall function within the framework of the guidelines established by the Executive Presbytery for the editorial and curriculum content of all publications and periodicals.

(1) *Composition.* The Board of Publication shall consist of the national director of the Division of Publication, the general superintendent, the general treasurer, and two additional members from among the Executive Presbytery or the national directors, who shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery. The national director of the Division of Publication shall serve as chairman. The Board of Publication shall meet monthly.

(2) *Amenability.* The Board of Publication shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

(3) *Subcommittees.* Subcommittees shall be named as necessary in carrying on the work of the division. They shall be nominated by the national director of the Division of Publication and ratified by the Board of Publication. All committee decisions shall be reported to the Board of Publication for approval and authorization. They shall be amenable to the Board of Publication.

d. Amenability. The division and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

Section 3. The Gospel Publishing House

The Gospel Publishing House, its plant and equipment, its general business interest, and the promotion and production of all salable periodicals and publications, shall be under the supervision of the Division of Publication and shall be operated in such a manner that it shall make an optimum contribution to the fulfillment of the threefold mission of the church.

ARTICLE XVIII. DIVISION OF THE TREASURY

a. Sphere of authority. There shall be a Division of the Treasury which shall have general oversight of the Finance Department, the Stewardship Department, the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department, the Church Loan Department, the Audit Department, and the Benevolences Department.

b. Purpose. The purpose of the division shall be to have the oversight and responsibility of safeguarding, supervising, and investing the finances of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and to oversee its benevolences ministries.

c. Executive director. The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the division.

d. Amenability. The division and all of its departments shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

Section 1. Finance Department

a. Authorization and purpose.

(1) *Functions.* There shall be a Finance Department which shall have the functions usual and ordinary to a Finance Department, and shall include the processing of mail.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the responsibility of this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Executive Finance Committee.* The Board of Administration shall constitute the Executive Finance Committee.

(3) *Committee on Finance.* There shall be a Committee on Finance, consisting of seven men from the constituency on the field, elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of studying the budget with the Executive Presbytery and shall serve in an advisory capacity in matters of general finance. They shall give preliminary survey and advice concerning any major project on the denomi-

national or departmental level involving the expenditure of funds. Any project to be submitted for consideration by the General Council which involves the expenditure of funds shall first be submitted to this committee for review and advice.

The terms shall be for 3 years and so arranged that two shall be elected in each of successive years and three in the third successive year.

(4) *Investment Committee.* The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a qualified Investment Committee of no less than four members to approve and make all decisions in regard to the investing, safeguarding, and buying and selling of all investments. This committee shall meet regularly and prepare written detailed minutes. Each and every decision to buy or sell any assets for which the department is responsible shall be signed by no less than three members on a numbered form prepared to record the authorization. These forms shall be kept in a numerical sequence file for review by all controlling and reviewing bodies and auditors. The Investment Committee is hereby charged with the prudent man rule in making its decisions.

c. Support of headquarters

(1) *From ministers.* The work of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, in its program of developing the spirit of cooperation and fellowship in home and foreign fields, incurs considerable expense, including the financial support of the executive officers and offices.

Ordained ministers should recognize their obligation to contribute \$10 per month from their tithes, or as an offering. Licensed ministers should contribute \$6 per month and Christian workers should contribute \$3 per month. All who can are strongly urged to give more than the suggested amount, either personally or through the assemblies they pastor.

Compliance with the above requirements shall be a prerequisite for renewal of credentials of all active ministers. If their contributions are in arrears, they shall be given an opportunity to meet this deficit with their renewal.

The general treasurer's office shall submit to the respective district offices a semiannual report of ministers' contributions for the support of headquarters. Each district shall make this information available to its ministers by any of the following methods:

- (a) Collectively, through district publications.
- (b) Individually, through personal letters.
- (c) Through any other media selected by the district.

The districts shall carefully analyze the annual report of each minister and, in their knowledge of local situations, determine if he has been voluntarily cooperating with the General Council financial program.

- (2) *From assemblies* It is recommended that each church send to

the General Council at least one offering for each calendar year toward the support of the administrative offices of the General Council. This offering shall be called a Fellowship Partnership offering, and shall be included with the Annual Church Ministries Report. It is suggested that each church's minimal offering be based upon its average Sunday morning attendance. A church averaging less than 50 is asked to send \$25 for the year; less than 100 but more than 50, \$50; less than 250 but more than 100, \$100; less than 500 but more than 250, \$250; less than 1,000 but more than 500, \$500; less than 2,000 but more than 1,000, \$1,000; over 2,000, \$2,000.

Section 2. Stewardship Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Responsibility.* There shall be a Stewardship Department which shall be responsible for promoting Bible-based stewardship among our churches and membership.

(2) *Functions.* The functions of this department shall be:

(a) *Provide stewardship materials.* To prepare and provide, as needed, materials that stress Biblical concepts of the stewardship of life, time, testimony, talent, and treasure.

(b) *Encourage support and provide reports.* To encourage faithful support of World Ministries Giving and to provide periodic reports to districts and churches on World Ministries Giving.

(c) *Encourage scriptural methods of support.* To encourage scriptural methods of financial support for local assemblies, district councils, and the administrative offices of the General Council.

(3) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the responsibility of this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Secretary.* There shall be a secretary of the department who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(3) *Stewardship Committee.* There shall be a Stewardship Committee which shall give counsel for the operation of the department. The committee shall be composed of the general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, who shall serve as its chairman; the secretary of the Stewardship Department; and three others from the field at large, appointed by the Executive Presbytery for a 2-year term. The committee shall meet annually.

c. World Ministries Giving

- (1) *Participation.* In order to support and develop the work and min

istries of the Assemblies of God at home and abroad, all its churches shall be encouraged to send offerings therefor at regular intervals.

(2) *Combined report.* A combined report of all offerings which are designated for departments shall be given under the caption of World Ministries Giving. The intent is to provide recognition for contributions to all ministries of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, to place each appeal and ministry on an equal basis, and to lend encouragement to churches and individual contributors to determine the appeal to which they will respond under the leading of the Spirit.

(3) *Credit.* World Ministries Giving recognition shall provide credit to Assemblies of God churches for contributions to the Divisions of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Christian Education (including educational institutions), and Church Ministries (including Men's Ministries, Women's Ministries, Sunday School, and Youth Departments), Radio and TV, the executive and Spiritual Life-Evangelism offices, Benevolences Department, and other General Council, regional, and district-sponsored or approved projects. Contributions from districts other than where a district-approved project is located can only be granted World Ministries Giving credit if the district where the contribution originates gives its approval, and if the contribution is channeled through that district or the national headquarters. It is expected that the national division related to a given project will be notified of approved projects. It is also understood that no district or region may receive World Ministries Giving credit for projects specifically disapproved by the General Council.

Section 3. Deferred Giving and Trusts Department

a. Authorization and purpose.

(1) *Responsibility and scope.* There shall be a Deferred Giving and Trusts Department which shall have the responsibility of developing, promoting, and administering all areas of deferred giving, including but not limited to all types of trust funds, wills, estates, annuities, unitrusts, annuity trusts, life income contracts, pooled income funds, remainder trusts, life ownership of property, remainderman agreements, life insurance agreements, and any other legal, ethical, and proven programs.

(2) *Amenability.* The Deferred Giving and Trusts Department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery.

(3) *Title and signatories.* The title and authority of any legal instrument shall be in the name of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Those officers who are designated and authorized to sign all documents for that body shall be authorized to act in the same capacity for the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department.

(4) *Control.* These bylaws shall govern the entire authority, control, and operation of the department.

(5) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) Board of trustees

(a) *Authorization.* The Deferred Giving and Trusts Department shall be under the supervision of a board of trustees consisting of not less than five members.

(b) *Amenability.* The board of trustees shall be appointed by and responsible to the Executive Presbytery.

(c) *Qualifications and terms of office.* The trustees shall be qualified, reputable, and knowledgeable persons and shall serve for 3-year terms on a rotation basis. A majority of trustees shall not be members of the headquarters staff.

(d) *Meetings and responsibilities.* The board shall meet not less than once each 3 months and shall review all actions of the deferred giving and trusts administration for the prior period. It shall review and give guidance in regard to investments, instruments, documents, financial reports, and internal controls, and keep detailed minutes of each meeting.

(2) *Secretary.* There shall be a secretary of the department who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. He shall be the business administrator and shall be in charge of all activities, including the office, files, safeguarding of assets, and the administration of all documents and assets in accordance with each document.

(3) Administrative Committee

(a) *Composition and responsibility.* The board of trustees shall appoint three qualified personnel to function as the administrative committee of the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department in charge of the day-to-day operations. The administrative committee of the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department shall always act under the prudent man rule in its conduct. The members of the administrative committee shall be the department secretary and two other members from headquarters personnel.

(b) *Amenability.* The administrative committee shall be responsible to the General Council Board of Administration, the Executive Presbytery, and to its own board of trustees.

(4) *Director of field services.* There shall be a director of field services who shall be in charge of field representation, public relations, and shall assist in estate planning such as wills, trust instruments, annuity agreements, and any other authorized programs of deferred giving.

(5) *Accountant.* A qualified accountant shall be in charge of all record keeping, general and detailed books of account to reflect all activities of each document, as well as all activities by classes of trusts, gifts,

annuities, unitrusts, and all other categories for proper accounting records. Each trust or each instrument should identify in each file where the funds are invested and their earnings, and the disposition when closed. The accountant shall develop a system of internal controls with checks and balances that will conform to sound and generally accepted auditing standards.

(6) *Investment Committee.* The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a qualified, experienced, and trained Investment Committee of no less than four members to approve and make all decisions in regard to the investing, safeguarding, and buying and selling of all investments. This committee will meet regularly and prepare written, detailed minutes. Each and every decision to buy or sell any assets of the department shall be signed by no less than three members on a numbered form prepared to record the authorization. These forms shall be kept in a numerical sequence file for review by all controlling and reviewing bodies and auditors. The Investment Committee is hereby charged with the prudent man rule in making its decisions.

(7) *Annual review.* The General Council Committee on Finance shall review the operations of this department each year.

(8) *Undesignated assets.* Upon the receipt of any assets not specifically designated by the donor, the General Council Board of Administration shall give written authorization for the sale of or other disposition by the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department.

(9) *Authorization for distribution.* When assets are freed from all contingencies they shall be approved for distribution to the particular ministry, fund, division, charity, or other parties as specified by the instrument providing the assets. The Executive Presbytery shall give final approval for the distribution of all funds designated to the General Council or any of its affiliates and shall have the authority to designate and distribute undesignated funds.

Section 4. Church Loan Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Function.* There shall be a Church Loan Department which shall provide loans and assist in obtaining financing for churches that need such assistance.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the responsibility of this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Secretary.* There shall be a secretary of the department who shall

be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. He shall serve as the church loan officer.

(3) *Church Loan Committee.* There shall be a Church Loan Committee which shall act upon all loan applications. The committee shall consist of the general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, who shall serve as its chairman, the secretary of the department, and two other persons appointed by the Executive Presbytery for a 2-year term.

Section 5. Audit Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Function.* There shall be an Audit Department which shall conduct independent protective and constructive audits and review effectiveness of controls, financial records, and operations.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the responsibility of this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Internal auditor.* There shall be an internal auditor who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. He shall be under the supervision of the general treasurer and shall be directly accountable to the Board of Administration and the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Responsibility.* The internal auditor basically serves management by measuring and evaluating the effectiveness of controls. His work is complementary to the independent auditor, using a similar approach but a different application of auditing techniques, independence, reporting, and interests served.

c. *Annual audit.* There shall be an annual audit of the financial records of The General Council of the Assemblies of God by an independent auditor, prepared in conformity with generally accepted auditing standards.

Section 6. Benevolences Department

a. *Authorization and purpose.* There shall be a Benevolences Department which shall have the responsibility of administration of the Aged Ministers Assistance Fund, the oversight of Assemblies of God homes for the aged, children's homes, child placement agencies, and the administration of any other benevolent services which may be committed to it.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Secretary.* There shall be a secretary of the department who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(3) *Administrative Committee.* There shall be a Benevolences Com-

mittee to administer the department. It shall consist of the general treasurer, who shall serve as chairman, the secretary of the department, and three other persons appointed by the Executive Presbytery for a 2-year term.

(4) *Amenability.* The department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. **Benevolence funds.** The department shall be authorized to solicit regular contributions from the ministers and churches of the Assemblies of God. Each church in the Fellowship is expected to cooperate by sending two special offerings annually for national benevolences, or by placing the Benevolences Department in its monthly budget.

d. **Aged Ministers Assistance.** Assistance shall be made available to ordained ministers (the term includes ordained missionaries) of the Assemblies of God and to their widows, because of age or physical infirmity and for whom no other means of support is available. Eligibility shall be determined on the following bases:

(1) *Ministerial requirement.* The applicant shall have been an ordained minister in good standing and have held credentials for at least 10 years immediately prior to retirement.

(2) *Age requirement.* The applicant shall have reached the age of 65 in the case of an ordained minister, or 60 in the case of a widow of a minister.

(3) *Disability requirement.* Ministers who have been disabled to the extent that they cannot perform their ministerial duties shall also be eligible to make application.

(4) *Financial cooperation requirement.* The record of the applicant shall indicate that he or she has complied with the approved financial plans of the district council and The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(5) *District endorsement requirement.* Unqualified endorsement must be given by the district officer.

e. **Homes for the aged and children.** Benevolent institutions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be operated by boards of directors nominated by the Benevolences Committee and appointed by the Executive Presbytery. These boards shall be responsible to the Benevolences Department in matters of policy and administration, and their actions shall be reviewed by the Executive Presbytery.

f. **District Council benevolent institutions.** District councils may set up homes for the aged and children's homes and child placement agencies in cooperation with the Benevolences Department. They shall be expected to conform to the standards approved by the department.

ARTICLE XIX. INSTITUTIONS

Section 1. Miscellaneous Institutions

a. **Missionary homes.** The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be in sympathy with the establishment and maintenance of missionary homes.

b. **Missionary schools on mission fields.** It shall also be in sympathy with the establishment and maintenance of missionary schools on the various mission fields where practicable for the training of native workers, and schools for the education of the young children of missionaries.

Section 2. Central Bible College

a. **Authorization and purpose.** Central Bible College, a ministerial training institution providing Bible-centered courses of training to prepare Christian workers for effectual service at home and abroad, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The college is forever bound to give Christ the preeminence in all things and bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and to the policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

b. **Board of Directors.** The execution of policy and the administration of the college shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

c. **Amenability.** The college and its board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the college.

Section 3. Evangel College

a. **Authorization and purpose.** Evangel College of the Assemblies of God, a Christian college of arts and sciences, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The college is forever bound to give Christ the preeminence in all things and bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and to the policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

b. **Board of Directors.** The execution of policy and the administration of the college shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

c. **Amenability.** The college and its board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the college.

Section 4. Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

a. **Authorization and purpose.** The Assemblies of God Theological Sem-

inary, a graduate school of theology and missions, providing advanced training beyond the baccalaureate level for ministers, missionaries, evangelists, and other Christian workers for effectual service at home and abroad, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary is forever bound to give Christ preeminence in all things and is bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

b. Board of Directors. The execution of policy and the administration of the Theological Seminary shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

c. Amenability. The Theological Seminary shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary.

Section 5. Berean College of the Assemblies of God

a. Authorization and purpose. Berean College of the Assemblies of God, a nontraditional college of Bible and general Christian service training, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The college is forever bound to give Christ preeminence in all things and is bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

b. Board of Directors. The execution of policy and the administration of the college shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

c. Amenability. The college and its board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the college.

ARTICLE XX. MILITARY SERVICE

As a Movement we affirm our loyalty to the government of the United States in war or peace.

We shall continue to insist, as we have historically, on the right of each member to choose for himself whether to declare his position as a combatant, a noncombatant, or a conscientious objector.

ARTICLE XXI. MINISTERS BENEFIT ASSOCIATION

Section 1. Organization

There shall be an association known as the Assemblies of God Ministers Benefit Association.

Section 2. Administration

There shall be a board of directors elected by the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God subject to ratification

by the General Presbytery. The board of directors of this association shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Section 3. Investment of Funds

The board of directors of the Ministers Benefit Association shall be authorized to invest the funds of this association in good income securities and property of the General and District Councils of the Assemblies of God and local churches of the Assemblies of God, provided that such investments are fully protected by mortgage and by note signed by General or District Council officials.

Section 4. Contributions and Benefits

Provisions governing contributions by members and benefits to accrue to members of the Ministers Benefit Association shall be contained in the bylaws of the association.

ARTICLE XXII. WORLD MISSIONS PLAN

Section 1. World Missions Offerings

It is recommended that all World Missions offerings shall be divided as follows:

- 70 percent foreign missions
- 5 percent foreign missions office expense
- 5 percent national home missions
- 20 percent district home missions

Section 2. Speed-the-Light Offerings

Speed-the-Light offerings shall be divided as follows:

- 72 percent foreign missions and home missions—Speed-the-Light
- 18 percent district home missions—Speed-the-Light
- 10 percent national Youth (CA) Department administration costs—Speed-the-Light

The portion returned to the district shall be designated for the purchase and erection of property in pioneer fields, including Chi Alpha ministries, with the exception that up to one-half of the 18 percent returned to district home missions under World Speed-the-Light shall be allowed for the administration of the district Christ's Ambassadors office at the discretion of the district officary.

ARTICLE XXIII. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The regular order of business for the General Council meeting shall be:

1. Report of the general superintendent
2. Report of the general secretary
3. Report of the general treasurer
4. Departmental reports
5. Unfinished business
6. Election of officers
7. New business

BYLAWS

8. Adjournment

All business sessions of the General Council shall commence with prayer.

ARTICLE XXIV. QUORUM

All members registered and voting in any meeting of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall constitute a quorum, and all general presbyters registered and voting in any meeting of the General Presbytery shall constitute a quorum. The presence of seven executive presbyters at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery shall constitute a quorum. The presence of three members of the Board of Administration shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XXV. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the bylaws may be made at any regular meeting of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Amendments to be adopted shall require a majority of all votes cast.

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Acknowledgments

See: APPRECIATION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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